

The Russian side considers capacity development as an important direction of the ISA work. The efforts to elaborate the draft capacity-development strategy are appreciated.

The concept should be based, in our view, on the mandate of the Authority and all activities of the Authority are to be taken into account. Strategic directions do have additional value.

To that end the definition of capacity development should be adapted to better correspond to the role of the Authority in accordance with the Convention. This matter requires a separate discussion within Assembly and Council.

A stable exchange of information between potential providers of opportunities and interested entities and persons may serve as a basis in the process.

It is proposed to include in the draft a reliable mechanism of communication between all Member States and the Authority.

We expect that the following actions are included in the draft Strategy.

“Secretariat of the Authority:

- provides information to all Member States on the interests communicated by developing States,
- circulates among Member States information on the relevant events organised by Member States or their organisations,
- provides assistance for the organisation of and participation in such events,
- makes publicly available in all official languages of the Authority materials received from organizers of capacity-building programmes and workshops,
- presents annual reports to the Council/Assembly on the implementation of the capacity-building strategy in order to get instructions from the Council/Assembly.”

Further improvement is needed on the proposed levels of capacity development.

It is proposed to amend the description of institutional level:

“increasing capabilities of institutions (education, scientific and other organisations) of Members for the purposes of activities of the Authority”.

We will be ready to share further editorial as well as substantial comments during follow-up rounds of discussion.