



Assembly

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Request for observer status in accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly on behalf of The Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew)

Note by the secretariat

1. On 11 May 2016, the Director of the International Ocean Policy of the Pew Charitable Trusts, an international non-governmental organization which works globally to establish pragmatic science-based policies that protect the oceans, preserve wild lands and promote the clean energy economy, submitted a letter to the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, requesting observer status in the Assembly of the Authority. The text of the letter and additional information provided by the applicant are contained in annexes I and II to the present note.
2. In accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, non-governmental organizations with which the Secretary-General has entered into arrangements in accordance with article 169, paragraph 1, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and other non-governmental organizations invited by the Assembly that have demonstrated their interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly, may participate as observers in the Assembly.
3. Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the same rule further provide that observers referred to in paragraph 1 (e) of that rule may sit at public meetings of the Assembly and, upon the invitation of the President and subject to approval by the Assembly, may make oral statements on questions within the scope of their activities, and that written statements submitted by observers referred to in paragraph 1 (e) of that rule within the scope of their activities that are relevant to the work of the Assembly should be made available by the secretariat in the quantities and in the languages in which the statements are submitted.



Annex I

Letter dated 11 May 2016 from the Director of the International Ocean Policy of the Pew Charitable Trusts addressed to the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority

In accordance with rule 82 under part XVI, Observers, of the rules of procedure of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority, the Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew) would like to respectfully request observer status in the Authority.

Pew is an international non-governmental organization which works globally to establish pragmatic, science-based policies that protect our oceans, preserve our wild lands and promote the clean energy economy. We have offices in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Brussels and London, as well as staff in other parts of the world. Pew's ocean work includes efforts to ensure the sustainability of seabed mining; create marine reserves; end illegal fishing; protect key species such as penguins, sharks, tuna and forage fish; and establish policies that protect, maintain and restore the health of marine ecosystems. For your information, Pew has been in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council since July 2010.

Pew looks forward to the opportunity to contribute to the work of the International Seabed Authority and States parties. Pew respectfully requests that its application for the granting of observer status in the Authority be considered at the Authority's next session in 2016. Pew would like to nominate the following staff as its representatives at the 2016 meeting of the Authority:

Mr. Conn Nugent, Project Director, Seabed Mining

Mr. Chris Mann, Director, Environment

Mr. Andrew Friedman, Senior Associate, International Ocean Policy

We hope that our qualifications, including our ability to provide fact-based information to International Seabed Authority member Governments, will enable Pew to participate as an official observer. Thank you in advance for your assistance with regard to this matter. Please let me know if I can provide you with any further information to facilitate this process. You may reach me by e-mail at ewilson@pewtrusts.org or through my direct line in Washington, D.C., at: 1 202-540-6755. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

(Signed) Elizabeth **Wilson**
Director, International Ocean Policy
The Pew Charitable Trusts

Annex II

International Seabed Authority observer status request

1. Name of organization
The Pew Charitable Trusts (Pew)
2. Address, telephone and fax numbers and website of office
The Pew Charitable Trusts
901 E Street NW
Washington, D.C., 20004
Tel: 1 202 552 2000
Fax: 1 202 552 2299
Website: www.pewtrusts.org
3. Name, title, e-mail address and telephone number of the proposed primary representatives

<p>Conn Nugent Project Director Seabed Mining Project cnugent@pewtrusts.org 202 540 6424</p>	<p>Christopher Mann Director, Environment cmann@pewtrusts.org 202 552 2035</p>
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4. Aims and purpose

The Pew Charitable Trusts works to actively promote strong conservation policies in the United States of America and internationally, with a strong focus on the protection of the marine environment. Our marine conservation work emphasizes fisheries management and the establishment of marine protected areas. In pursuit of practical and meaningful solutions, Pew exercises a comprehensive approach utilizing applied science, public education, sophisticated media and communications and policy advocacy.

Pew has an extensive portfolio of environmental work and our activities continue to grow. Several domestic and international initiatives, listed below, demonstrate the breadth of environmental issues undertaken by Pew.

Ending Illegal Fishing Project
www.pewtrusts.org/endillegal fishing

The Pew Ending Illegal Fishing Project seeks to dramatically reduce illegal fishing around the world by working with regional fisheries management organizations and States to, inter alia, require and implement International Maritime Organization numbers on certain vessels, improving information-sharing and promoting ratification of the Agreement on Port State Measures. In 2013, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), with support from Pew, announced the launch of a major global effort to stem illegal fishing. In 2015, Pew partnered with Satellite Applications Catapult to pioneer Project Eyes on the Seas, a cutting-edge technology platform that combines satellite monitoring and imagery data with other information, such as that derived from fishing vessel databases and oceanographic data, to help authorities detect suspicious fishing activity.

Ending Overfishing in Northwestern Europe

www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/ending-overfishing-in-northwestern-europe

At the start of 2014, a new era began for fisheries management in the European Union. A new Common Fisheries Policy, aimed at restoring European Union fish stocks, entered into force. For the previous five years, Pew and 192 other organizations had worked through the OCEAN2012 coalition in support of an ambitious reform process. Although that process proved successful, overfishing is far from over. The legislation must be implemented well on the water if the new policy is to achieve its aims. Pew's project to End Overfishing in Northwestern Europe focuses on the implementation of two crucial elements of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy: setting fishing limits that will end overfishing by 2015, where possible, or by 2020 at the latest and eliminating the practice of discarding unwanted fish.

Global Ocean Legacy

www.globaloceanlegacy.org

Global Ocean Legacy, a project of Pew and its partners, is working with local communities, Governments and scientists around the world to protect and conserve some of our most important and unspoiled ocean environments. Together, we are establishing the world's first generation of great marine parks by securing the designation of large, fully protected reserves. To date, our efforts have helped to double the amount of safeguarded ocean habitat worldwide.

Global Shark Conservation

www.pewtrusts.org/sharks

Working with government leaders, scientists, fisheries experts, diplomats and even survivors of shark attacks, Pew highlights the plight of sharks from overfishing and urges countries to take action to conserve them. We work internationally with the fishing nations and treaty organizations that regulate high-seas fisheries. In addition, we work with nations whose waters still have diverse populations of sharks towards declaring shark sanctuaries and advocating for international shark conservation.

Global Tuna Conservation

www.pewtrusts.org/tuna

Pew is working to improve the international management of tuna species by promoting science-based catch limits which do not allow overfishing; minimizing the impacts of destructive fishing gears; eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; and increasing the transparency and accountability of tuna regional fisheries management organizations.

Lenfest Ocean Program

www.lenfestocean.org

In 2004, the Lenfest Ocean Program was established to support marine research that will be useful in formulating solutions to ocean problems. Staff members consult with scientists, advocates and decision makers in order to identify research projects that will be directly relevant to marine policy decisions. The programme focuses its work on the ecosystem effects of fisheries and sustainable approaches to fisheries management.

Pew Fellows in Marine Conservation

www.pewmarinefellows.org

Since 1990, the Pew marine conservation fellowships have been granted to fund innovative work in marine ecosystems, fisheries management and coastal conservation as well as efforts to solve marine contamination. These grants are given to mid-career professionals whose future contributions to marine science will be significantly enhanced by the fellowship.

Protecting Ocean Life on the High Seas

www.pewtrusts.org/highseas

The high seas make up about two thirds of the world's ocean. These vast expanses of ocean fall outside the jurisdiction of any country. While these areas beyond national jurisdiction are rich in resources, oversight is rare. A patchwork of rules and regulations provides little in the way of conservation safeguards. The development of marine protected areas and reserves — the equivalent of national parks at sea — would be a significant step towards protecting high-seas biodiversity. Unfortunately, the world lacks an international legal instrument for establishing such areas in high-seas waters. The Pew Charitable Trusts project to protect ocean life on the high seas was launched to help change this.

Protecting the Deep Sea

www.pewtrusts.org/en/projects/protecting-the-deep-sea

The Pew Charitable Trusts and its partners in the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition are working to end destructive deep-sea fishing practices around the world, most notably bottom trawling. Our objective is to achieve major improvements to ecosystem and habitat protections in the north-east Atlantic Ocean, where both exclusive economic zones and the high seas beyond national jurisdictions are heavily targeted by deep-sea fishing fleets. The campaign has already met with some success towards achieving this goal: The European Commission proposed legislation on 19 July 2012 that, over two years, would phase out targeted deep-sea bottom trawling and bottom gill-net fishing by European Union fleets in the north-east Atlantic. Pew is advocating for European legislators — the European Parliament and the European Commission Council — to adopt that legislation.

5. History

The Pew Charitable Trusts, an independent non-profit organization, is the sole beneficiary of seven individual charitable funds established between 1948 and 1979 by two sons and two daughters of Sun Oil Company founder Joseph N. Pew and his wife, Mary Anderson Pew. The Trusts became a public charity in 2004. This status allowed for more flexibility in engaging in new initiatives and operating programmes for maximum effectiveness and efficiency. However, Pew is not a public member organization and therefore does not offer membership eligibility.

6. Recent activities

In December 2015, Pew launched a major new initiative to ensure a precautionary approach to seabed mining. The Pew Seabed Mining Project now joins the roster of Pew marine conservation activities described above under “Aims and purpose”.

The project was the culmination of a two-year process in which Pew staff and independent consultants investigated worldwide seabed mining activities — past, current and potential; within exclusive economic zones and the Area; and shallow and deep. In its first two years, the project is concentrating on activities that further the elaboration of the International Seabed Authority Mining Code, particularly the aspects related to regional environmental assessment and management, and the establishment of no-mining zones to protect the integrity of marine ecosystems. In addition, Pew is supporting dialogues and workshops regarding public participation and transparency in the Authority process and the elaboration of a payment regime for the use of seabed resources.

7. Descriptive statement of the extent to which the purposes of Pew relate to those of the International Seabed Authority, including, in particular, the contributions that can be made to the progress of the Authority

Pew has already contributed to the progress of the Authority and is expanding its efforts in that regard. The prime vehicle for assistance provided by Pew has been the sponsorship of scientific workshops to inform International Seabed Authority deliberations. Pew previously supported the work of Dr. Craig Smith in recommending Areas of Particular Environmental Interest in the Clarion-Clipperton Zone through a Pew Fellowship in Marine Conservation. Pew is currently providing significant financial support for research and workshops on developing a Strategic Environmental Management Plan for the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and plans to support similar scientific efforts with respect to potential mining areas in the North Pacific and Indian Oceans. Pew has been an active participant in various international meetings on the development of regulations for deep-sea mining, most recently in Belgium and Australia. Pew is also sponsoring a workshop on stakeholder participation and transparency in the International Seabed Authority process for participants in the annual session of the Authority in July (2016) and is planning expert workshops on Authority fiscal policies and payment regimes.

8. Structure

The Pew Charitable Trusts is an independent non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Pennsylvania, United States of America. Its headquarters is in Philadelphia and its largest office is in Washington, D.C. It also has offices in Seattle, Portland, London and Brussels. Operating as a charitable organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of the United States, it is governed by a Board of Directors.

9. PCT member organizations

Pew is not a public member organization and therefore does not offer membership eligibility.

10. Current member representatives to Pew

Not applicable.

11. Affiliated organizations

Not applicable.