

INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

Assembly



Distr.
GENERAL

ISBA/5/A/4/Add.1
21 August 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY
Fifth session
Kingston, Jamaica
9-27 August 1999

CONSIDERATIONS RELATING TO THE OFFER BY THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA
CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF THE PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS
OF THE AUTHORITY

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

On 10 August 1999, the Secretary-General requested further clarification by the Government of Jamaica of certain issues. The letter of the Secretary-General appears as annex I to the present document. The response of the Government of Jamaica appears as annex II to the present document.

Annex I

LETTER DATED 10 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED
TO THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN TRADE OF JAMAICA

I refer to your letter of 3 August 1999 concerning the proposed site for the headquarters of the International Seabed Authority. I would like to express my appreciation for the undertakings on the part of the Government of Jamaica set out in the letter.

I wish to draw to your attention, however, that a number of issues which were raised during our meeting with the Minister of State on 12 July do not appear to be addressed.

In particular, the letter does not convey what I understood to be one of the key outcomes for our discussions, namely the Government's agreement to the occupation of the premises by the Authority on the basis of a long-term lease. It was also my understanding that the Authority would have first call on additional space in the building, as and when necessary.

In addition, I should note that your letter does not address the question of the upgrading of the electricity supply to the building. During our meeting, the Minister of State explained that the Jamaica Public Service Company would take certain measures to improve the reliability of the electricity supply and that the nature of those measures would also be reflected in the letter. Further, the Government would continue to monitor the status of the standby generator and upgrade it as necessary.

I shall be grateful for your official clarification of these matters.

(Signed) Satya N. NANDAN
Secretary-General

Annex II

LETTER DATED 12 AUGUST 1999 FROM THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND FOREIGN TRADE OF JAMAICA
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I refer to your letter of 10 August 1999, responding to the undertaking given by the Government of Jamaica in respect of the proposed site for the headquarters of the International Seabed Authority.

The matters on which you seek clarification are indeed matters on which there was mutual understanding. I therefore confirm these arrangements by this letter.

The Government of Jamaica agrees to make available on lease for an indefinite period and on a rent-free basis space in the building located at Block 11, as may be required from time to time by the International Seabed Authority for use as the headquarters of the Authority.

With respect to the electricity supply to the building, the Government has secured a written commitment from the Jamaica Public Service Company to ensure the reliability and the quality of electric power supply to the Authority.

In a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade and the Jamaica Public Service Company, the Company undertakes to establish two alternative sources of electric power supply, in addition to the current distribution line serving the Authority.

The Company has also undertaken to monitor the electric power supply to the Authority on a continuous basis.

In respect of the standby generator, the Government will be prepared, if necessary, to upgrade the capacity of the generator.

(Signed)

Seymour MULLINGS
Deputy Prime Minister and Minister
for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade
