

Council

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GENERAL

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5-16 August 1996

#### REQUESTS FOR EXTENSION OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP

1. The Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement") entered into force on 28 July 1996. According to the Agreement, the membership in the Authority of those States and entities which have been applying the Agreement provisionally in accordance with article 7 terminates unless it is extended as provided for in the Agreement. Under paragraph 12 (a) of section 1 of the annex to the Agreement, such States and entities are entitled to continue to participate as members on a provisional basis until 16 November 1996 upon notification to the depositary of their intention to so participate. After 16 November 1996 the Council may, upon the request of the State or entity concerned, extend such membership for a further period or periods not exceeding two years provided that the Council is satisfied that the State or entity concerned has been making efforts in good faith to become a party to the Agreement and the Convention.

2. As at 13 August 1996, four States had submitted requests to extend membership on a provisional basis beyond 16 November 1996. The States which have submitted requests are: Bangladesh, Canada, Nepal and United States of America. The text of the requests submitted by these States appears in the annex to the present document.

#### Annex

#### BANGLADESH

#### Letter dated 26 July 1996 from the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and to inform you

that the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh wishes to continue its provisional membership in the International Seabed Authority till 16 November 1998.

(Signed) Abdus Samad AZAD  
Foreign Minister

#### CANADA

Letter dated 15 July 1996 from the Legal Adviser to the  
Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade  
of Canada addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, adopted by the General Assembly on 28 July 1994 and in particular to paragraph 12 (a) of section 1 of the annex thereto.

Canada requests that the Council of the Authority extend Canada's provisional membership in the Authority for a period of one year from 16 November 1996. The Government of Canada remains committed to the ratification of the Convention but, unfortunately, the necessary procedures to enable Canada to ratify will not be completed before the expiry of its provisional membership in the Authority on 16 November 1996.

(Signed) Philippe KIRSCH, Q.C.  
Legal Adviser

#### NEPAL

Letter dated 21 July 1996 from the Minister for Foreign  
Affairs of Nepal addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, which is entering into force on 28 July 1996.

I have also the honour to inform you that His Majesty's Government of Nepal wishes to continue its provisional membership to the International Seabed Authority till 16 November 1998.

(Signed) Dr. Prakash Chandra LOHANI

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Note verbale dated 29 July 1996 from the Embassy of the United  
States of America at Kingston addressed to the secretariat of  
the International Seabed Authority

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the International Seabed Authority secretariat in Kingston and has the honour to request that the Seabed Authority grant an extension of the provisional membership of the United States in the International Seabed Authority.

In reference to section 1, paragraph 12 (a), of the annex [to the Agreement] relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Agreement") United States requests that the Council grant an extension of its provisional membership in the Authority beyond 16 November 1996, for a period of two years as provided for in the Agreement. The United States signed the Agreement on 29 July 1994 and since then has applied the Agreement pending its entry into force for the United States. The United States wishes to inform the Council and the Authority that it will continue to make good-faith efforts to become a party to the Agreement and the convention.

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