



Finance Committee

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Status of contributions and related matters

Report of the Secretary-General

1. The present report covers the status of contributions to the budget of the International Seabed Authority as at 10 May 2019.
2. In accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and 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 administrative expenses of the Authority shall be met by assessed contributions of its members until the Authority has sufficient funds from other sources to meet those expenses. The scale of assessments shall be based on the scale used for the regular budget of the United Nations, adjusted for differences in membership. As at 30 April 2019, 61.6 per cent (\$4,157,496) of the contributions to the 2019 budget of the Authority had been received, while 57.3 per cent of the members of the Authority had fully paid and 4.3 per cent had partially paid their assessed contribution for 2019.
3. Contributions outstanding from member States for prior periods (1998–2018) amounted to \$805,042 as at 30 April 2019. Notices are sent on a regular basis to member States, reminding them of the arrears. In accordance with article 184 of the Convention and rule 80 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, a member of the Authority which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contribution shall have no vote if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of financial contribution due from it for the preceding two years. As at 30 April 2019, the following 56 members of the Authority had been in arrears for two years or more: Angola, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mongolia, Namibia, Niger, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, State of Palestine, Sudan, Suriname, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
4. The Finance Committee is invited to take note of the status of the contributions and to urge member States to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority in a timely manner. The current amount of unpaid contributions represents more than a month of the Authority's annual budget, thus jeopardizing the smooth running of the secretariat and investment in the substantive programmes.

