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Agenda item 15

Issues relating to the election of members of the Legal and Technical Commission

**Algeria, on behalf of the African Group, and Brazil, on behalf of the
Latin American and Caribbean States Group: draft decision***

Draft decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority relating to the election of members of the Legal and Technical Commission

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Recalling its decision [ISBA/22/C/29](#) of 22 July 2016, in particular paragraph 2,

Considering the increase in complexity of the matter of the election of members of the Legal and Technical Commission,

Recalling article 163, paragraphs 3 and 4, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which provides that members of the Commission shall have appropriate qualifications in the area of competence of the Commission and that, in the election of members of the Commission, due account shall be taken of the need for equitable geographical distribution and the representation of special interests,

In pursuit of establishing more certainty in the process of future elections of members of the Commission,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the election of members of the Legal and Technical Commission;¹
2. *Decides* that equitable geographical representation, as well as special interests and appropriate fields of expertise, shall guide the process of election of members of the Commission;
3. *Also decides* that any future change in the size of the Commission should be determined no later than one year before the election, taking into account paragraph 2 above;

* Originally submitted in 2017.

¹ [ISBA/23/C/2](#).



4. *Further decides* that the number of vacancies allotted to each regional group at the next election shall be determined in the light of equitable geographical representation;

5. *Calls upon* regional groups to take into account the considerations set out in the third preambular paragraph of the present decision.
