



Council

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Kingston, 15–19 July 2019

Statement of the President of the Council of the International Authority on the work of the Council during the second part of the twenty-fifth session

Addendum

I. Resuming of the session

1. The second part of the twenty-fifth session of the Council was held from 15 to 19 July 2019, during which time the Council held 10 meetings.

II. Report of the Secretary-General on the credentials of members of the Council

2. At the 255th meeting, on 18 July 2019, credentials were received from 33 members of the Council.

III. Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission

3. At its 252nd meeting, on 15 July 2019, the Council elected Erasmo Alonso Lara Cabrera (Mexico) to fill the vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission opened by the resignation of Alonso Martínez Ruiz (Mexico), for the remainder of his term until 31 December 2021.

IV. Status of national legislation relating to deep seabed mining and related matters

4. At the same meeting, the Council was also informed of the status of national legislation relating to deep seabed mining and of the release of a comparative study of existing national legislations ([ISBA/25/C/24](#)) and took note of the report. The Council requested the Secretary-General to submit to it a report on the status of



national legislation relating to deep seabed mining and related matters, for its consideration in 2020.

V. Consideration, with a view to approval, of an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules by the Beijing Pioneer Hi-Tech Development Corporation

5. Also at its 252nd meeting, the Council considered the report and recommendations of the Legal and Technical Commission relating to an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for polymetallic nodules by the Beijing Pioneer Hi-Tech Development Corporation, sponsored by China ([ISBA/25/C/30](#)).

6. Acting on the recommendation of the Commission, the Council approved the application, designated part A of the application area to the applicant as the exploration area and part B of the application area as the reserved area for the Authority (*ibid.*, annexes), and requested the Secretary-General to issue the plan of work in the form of a contract between the Authority and the Beijing Pioneer Hi-Tech Development Corporation ([ISBA/25/C/33](#)).

VI. Draft regulations for exploitation of mineral resources in the Area

7. On the basis of the guidance provided by the Council during its meetings in February 2019, the Legal and Technical Commission was able to develop further the text of the draft regulations and to present its recommendations to the Council on the draft regulations for exploitation of mineral resources in the Area ([ISBA/25/C/WP.1](#)). The Council also submitted a note explaining the changes made to the text as well as areas requiring further consideration ([ISBA/25/C/18](#)).

8. On 15, 16 and 17 July 2019, the Council met in an informal session to consider the above-mentioned draft regulations and note. Delegations made general comments on the draft regulations as well as specific drafting proposals from the preamble to Part III. The Council's agreement as to its next steps with respect to the consideration of the draft regulations is reflected in [ISBA/25/C/37](#). Following informal consultations regarding the process going forward, oral remarks were also made highlighting the steps to be adopted.

9. The Council also considered the report of the Chair of the open-ended informal working group on the outcome of the second meeting of that working group, which was held on 11 and 12 July 2019 ([ISBA/25/C/32](#)). The Council welcomed the progress made by the working group but recognized that further work still needed to be done. Therefore, the Council decided that the informal working group should convene its third meeting in 2020.

VII. Report on the implementation of the 2018 decision of the Council on the reports of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission

10. At the same meeting, the Council considered the report on the implementation of the 2018 decision of the Council on the report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission ([ISBA/25/C/12/Add.1](#)). The Council took note of the report

and invited the Secretary-General to include members of the Council in the consultation regarding a draft template for public disclosure. The Council's decisions with respect to the matters reported by the Secretary-General are reflected in [ISBA/25/C/37](#).

VIII. Report of the Finance Committee

11. At its 254th meeting, on 17 July 2019, the Council also considered the report of the Finance Committee ([ISBA/25/C/31-ISBA/25/A/10](#)). The decision of the Council on financial and budgetary matters is contained in [ISBA/25/C/34](#).

IX. Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission during the twenty-fifth session

12. At its 254th and 255th meetings, on 17 and 18 July 2019, the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission reported to the Council on the work of the Commission during both parts of the twenty-fifth session, contained in [ISBA/25/C/19](#) and [ISBA/25/C/19/Add.1](#). The decision of the Council relating to the reports of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission is contained in [ISBA/25/C/37](#).

X. Report on matters related to the Enterprise

13. At its 256th meeting, on 18 July 2019, the Council expressed its appreciation for the report presented by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Enterprise ([ISBA/25/C/26](#)) and took note of it. At its 258th meeting, on 19 July 2019, the Council adopted a decision regarding the extension and renewal of contract for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Enterprise ([ISBA/25/C/36](#)). The Council thanked the delegation of Norway for its pledge of \$10,000 to that fund and called for other contributions to be made to the voluntary trust fund established for funding the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Enterprise.

14. Some delegations noted that the decision of the Assembly on the appointment of an Interim Director-General of the Enterprise relating to the final report on the first periodic review of the international regime of the Area pursuant to article 154 had been overtaken by events.

XI. Issues related to the elections of members of the Legal and Technical Commission

15. At its 258th meeting, on 19 July 2019, the Council considered the two submissions on elections of members of the Legal and Technical Commission ([ISBA/25/C/L.2](#) and [ISBA/25/C/22](#)). Unfortunately, consensus was not reached on those submissions, in spite of the decision of the Council of 2016 contained in [ISBA/22/C/29](#) relating to the process to conduct the next election of members of the Commission. The Council decided to defer the consideration of the submissions to its next meeting in 2020, when they would be taken up as a matter of priority.

XII. Amendments to the staff regulations of the Authority

16. On 19 July 2019, at its 258th meeting, on the basis of the note by the Secretary-General contained in [ISBA/25/A/9-ISBA/25/C/28](#), the Council decided to adopt and applied provisionally, prior to approval by the Assembly, an amendment to staff regulation 9.4 of the staff regulations of the Authority, which relates to the age of retirement and the mandatory age of separation. The decision of the Council regarding amendments to the staff regulations of the Authority is contained in [ISBA/25/C/35](#).

XIII. Other matters

17. The secretariat was requested to use the same method of referencing the official documents in keeping the records of the Council meetings in its archives.

XIV. Close of session

18. The meeting of the second part of the 25th session of the Council of the International Seabed Authority ended on 19 July 2019.
