Decision of the Council concerning a standardized approach for the development, approval and review of regional environmental management plans in the Area

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Recognizing the need for a standardized approach for the development, approval and review of regional environmental management plans in the Area,

Having considered the proposals on a procedure for the development, approval and review of regional environmental management plans,¹ and on a template with minimum requirements for regional environmental management plans,²

1. Requests the Legal and Technical Commission, in consultation with the Finance Committee if necessary, to further develop the “Guidance to facilitate the development of regional environmental management plans”,³ in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,⁴ the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982,⁵ as well as the rules, regulations and procedures of the International Seabed Authority, and taking into account, as appropriate, the above-mentioned proposals¹/² with a view to recommending to the Council a standardized approach, including a template with indicative elements;

2. Requests the Legal and Technical Commission to report on the progress made in its work on this issue at the next meeting of the Council, in July 2020.

264th meeting
21 February 2020

¹ ISBA/26/C/6.
² ISBA/26/C/7.
⁵ Ibid., vol. 1836, No. 31364.