BAIDY DIENE (SENEGAL) ELECTED PRESIDENT OF SEABED COUNCIL FOR 2004

Mr Baïdy Diène, who was elected President of the Council of the International Seabed Authority on Monday, 24 May 2004, is a geological engineer by profession, with a wealth of experience in various fields including the law of the sea and in the mining and petroleum sectors.

At present, Mr Diène is Deputy Secretary-General of the Agency for Management and Cooperation between Senegal and Guinea-Bissau. Prior to this, from 1985 to 1995, he served as Director of Mines and Geology and Director of Energy, Mines and Geology, successively. He has also participated in several exploratory missions relating to gold and iron mining, as well as land surveying activities. In 1995, he was appointed Special Advisor with responsibility for mines and hydrocarbons in the Cabinet of the Minister of Mines and Energy.

In the course of his duties, Mr Diène has lent his considerable expertise to the task of mining and petroleum legislation as well as the management and administration of resources.

Since 1980, he has participated in the meetings and the work relating to the law of the sea. He represented his country at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, and later at the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, where he served as coordinator and chairman of the group in charge of defining the principles, recommendations and implementation strategies for training.

Mr Diène currently serves as a member of the Authority’s Legal and Technical Commission.