



International Seabed Authority
28th Session 2023

**Information on logistical and procedural aspects
for the twenty-eighth session of the Council (Part III) of
the International Seabed Authority
(30 October – 8 November 2023)**

A. Introduction

The twenty-eighth session of the Council (Part III) will be held in Kingston, Jamaica from 30 October to 8 November 2023. This note aims at providing information to delegations on the logistical and procedural aspects.

B. Meeting venue and format

The meetings of the twenty-eighth session of the Authority will be held in person at the Jamaica Conference Centre.

C. Access for People with Disabilities

Representatives with disabilities who require accessible seating during the meetings are kindly requested to bring this to the attention of the Secretariat as soon as possible by sending an email to secretary-general@isa.org.jm.

D. Procedural aspects of the meeting

Credentials and Accreditation

For planning and registration purposes, delegations are kindly requested to submit legibly scanned copies of their credentials to the Secretary-General via email to protocol@isa.org.jm as soon as possible, but preferably not less than forty-eight (48) hours before the first meeting attended.

Members of the Council and members of the Authority not represented on the Council.

Credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or a person authorized by the Minister. A scanned copy of a duly signed communication such as a note verbale from either the respective Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the Permanent Mission to the International Seabed Authority or the Permanent Mission to the United Nations, containing provisional information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the twenty eighth session, may be submitted to the Secretary-General, pending the submission of the formal credentials. For entities referred to in article 305, paragraph 1 (f), of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, credentials are to be issued by a competent authority.

Members and observers of the Authority are kindly requested to bring original hard copy credentials on the first day of the meetings of the Council attended. Submission of original credentials should be done at the Protocol and Credentials Section which is located on the first floor of the Secretariat building. When appointing new representatives, delegations are also reminded to indicate whether it supersedes or accompanies previously submitted credentials. Credentials are only valid for the meeting period indicated. As a standing agenda item of the Council, the Secretary-General will provide an oral report on the credentials of members of the Council during the meeting.

The Secretariat may be contacted at protocol@isa.org.jm for any questions on accreditation/credentials.

Registration and Identification badges

All delegates attending the meetings of the Council will require an ISA-issued identification badges, in order to enter and remain on the premises of the Jamaica Conference Centre, as well as to gain entry to the meeting rooms and the Secretariat building.

Upon arrival, delegates will be directed by security personnel to the Protocol and Credentials Section to submit their credentials and to acquire their identification badges.

Badges are non-transferable and are valid only for the period indicated thereon. If lost or stolen, delegates will be required to visit the Protocol and Credentials Section to request the issuance of a new badge. To promote environmental sustainability and as a cost saving measure, delegates are strongly encouraged to return their badges to the Secretariat, in particular the lanyard and the pouch, at the end of the session or the last meeting attended, whichever comes first.

Collection boxes will be placed inside the meeting room for delegates to deposit their badges prior to leaving the premises.

For efficiency purposes as well as crowd control, delegates are encouraged to submit via email to protocol@isa.org.jm, a quality colour photograph, displaying their full face in front view, against a plain (preferably white) background, so that their access passes may be prepared ahead of their arrival. The photos will be used strictly for the purpose of generating delegates' access passes and will not be used for any other purpose(s) or shared otherwise.

Entry Requirements

As of September 1, 2023, all travellers entering Jamaica are required to complete the Immigration and Customs Declaration [C5] form online, prior to travel. The form is accessible at www.enterjamaica.com. This is the official and only authorised site to be used for the submission of the declaration forms.

Furthermore, information on entry requirements to Jamaica can be found on the Government of Jamaica's Passport, Immigration and Citizenship Agency's website at: <https://www.pica.gov.jm/immigration/entry-visa-requirements>. Delegates are strongly encouraged to consult the website to obtain information governing the entry of foreign nationals into Jamaica and visa requirements.

Delegates requiring the Secretariat's assistance with acquiring Jamaican entry visas to attend Part III of the 28th Session are requested to submit legible copies of their passport biodata page, the credentials of representatives and their flight itinerary to the Secretariat at

protocol@isa.org.jm in order that a request can be made of the Government of Jamaica for the issuance of visa waivers.

Delegates are further asked to submit the requisite information, as soon as possible, but preferably, at least three weeks before their scheduled departure to Jamaica, to allow sufficient time to process visa waiver requests. Delegates who require visas to enter Jamaica and arrive at the port of entry without a visa or a visa waiver will be required by the relevant Government authority to pay an immigration processing fee of **USD 350**.

Documentation and Interpretation

The meetings of the twenty-eighth session will be paperless. Delegates are invited to use their portable devices to access all documentation. Pre-session and in-session documents will continue to be made available on the Authority's website: <https://www.isa.org.jm/sessions/28th-session-2023/>.

Documents and materials for the working groups during the meetings of the Council will be placed online and hyperlinked in the indicative programme of work for the Council for ease of reference.

Access to a secured wireless internet connection (Wi-Fi) will be provided.

Documents, Print-On-Demand

To implement its Paper-Smart policy, the Secretariat will not print official documents. However, print-on-demand service will be provided for this session in the event that there is a special need for any delegate to have a printed copy of any official document. Delegates are requested, in such an exceptional case, to send an email to documents@isa.org.jm, at least 24 hours in advance of collection of the hard copies. The request should include the document symbol, associated language(s), number of copies and the name of the requesting delegate or delegation.

Statements

To facilitate verbatim reporting and effective interpretation, delegates are kindly requested to submit copies of their statements (*preferably in Microsoft Word*) in advance of the meetings, but no later than two hours before delivery to council@isa.org.jm, for the meetings of the Council. The name of the meeting and the speaker, as well as the relevant agenda item must be indicated in the subject line of the email, and the heading of the statement. Interpretation will be provided in all six (6) official languages of the Authority (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) in plenary meetings.

In line with past practice, statements made during the meetings, that are shared with the Secretariat, will be posted on the website of the Authority, unless indicated otherwise.

The President of the Council may announce additional information to delegations on the organization of the discussions once the meetings begin.

E. Safety and Security

Delegates should follow the safety and security policies issued by the Secretariat and comply with requests and instructions from the security officers of the Secretariat.

Only authorized shuttle services and vehicles with diplomatic plates will be allowed to enter the Conference Centre parking area.

Meeting services and other arrangements

Meeting Journal

The journals for the meetings of the Council and the meetings of the Assembly will be posted on the Authority's website at <https://www.isa.org.jm/sessions/28th-session-2023/> at 8:00 p.m. daily.

Media access, arrangements and services

Media accreditation is strictly reserved for members of the press who represent a bona fide media organization and should be requested online via the Authority's website at <https://www.isa.org.jm/media-accreditation/>.

The Communications Unit of the Secretariat will issue regular e-bulletins featuring highlights and pictures of the Council meetings. The official dissemination list used by the Secretariat will be used for that purpose. Delegates who would like to be added to the communications list, to receive these highlights, are invited to communicate their email address to news@isa.org.jm.

Media briefings will be organized during the meetings. More information can be obtained by contacting news@isa.org.jm.

All meetings of the Council, including its working groups established by the Council for the draft exploration regulations will be live streamed in the six (6) official languages of the Authority, at <https://www.isa.org.jm/isa-web-tv/>.

Photos of the meetings will be made available at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/184741656@N05/albums>.

Side Events

To enable members of the Council to progress with informal discussions, side events will be accommodated between 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with the understanding that only one side event will be organized every other day.

No side events will be facilitated during lunch.

No catering will be provided during side events.

[Guidelines for organizers along with the Request Form for side events](#) can be accessed using the above hyperlink to the Authority's website.

Meetings of Regional Groups

Due to restrictions of available rooms at the Jamaica Conference Centre, space to accommodate Regional Group meetings will be indicated upon request.

Access to Satya N. Nandan (SNN) Library

The Satya N. Nandan (SNN) Library, located on the second floor of the Secretariat building, is accessible to delegates by appointment only, between 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, delegates can email library@isa.org.jm.

Before visiting, delegates are encouraged to search the Digital Library at <https://library.isa.org.jm/>. When arriving at the Secretariat building, delegates should proceed to

the Credentials and Protocol Area, where they will be escorted by security personnel to the Library.

F. Medical Services

For the duration of the meetings, a Medical Post will be established with a medical team and an ambulance on standby to assist delegates. For any medical needs, delegates are kindly encouraged to visit the Medical Post located in the vicinity of Conference Room 2.

For additional concerns, kindly notify the Associate Security and Facilities Officer of the Authority, Sonja Phinn, by telephone at +1 (876) 838-3902 or via email at sphinn@isa.org.jm.

G. Accommodation and transportation

Information on hotels with negotiated rates is available at the following link: <https://www.isa.org.jm/sessions/28th-session-2023/>

There will be a daily shuttle service, properly identified, offering delegates daily transportation to and from the Jamaica Conference Centre. The bus will be parked at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, accessible to nearby properties (Courtleigh Hotel & Suites, Liguanea Club, Courtyard by Marriot). The rates for shuttle service are: **USD 10 / JMD 1,500** for a round-trip and **USD 5 / JMD 800** for a one-way trip.

Delegates staying at the R Hotel, Spanish Court Hotel and the AC Hotel by Marriott who are interested in getting shuttle service are invited to send an email, before arrival, to Lilian Valles at lvalles@isa.org.jm in order to coordinate with the service providers.

Shuttle services are offered by private contractors and the Secretariat takes no responsibility for the services provided.

Further information on logistical and administrative arrangements will be published in due course at the link: <https://www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Admin-Note-Council-Oct-Nov-23.pdf> It is advised to delegates to check updates to such arrangements on a regular basis.

Kingston, Jamaica, 29 September 2023