

Mr. Michael Lodge
Secretary-General
International Seabed Authority
Kingston, Jamaica

Paris, 24 August 2022

Subject: Request for observer status with the International Seabed Authority

Dear Secretary-General,

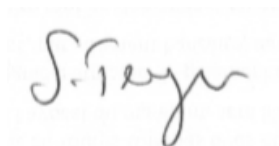
On behalf of the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), a French think tank based in Paris that aims to facilitate the transition toward sustainable development, I am writing to apply for observer status.

In accordance with article 169 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and rule 82, paragraph 1(e) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority and the guidelines for observer status of non-governmental organizations with the International Seabed Authority, IDDRI requests observer status with the International Seabed Authority as a non-governmental organization.

Please find below our formal application in the prescribed format.

We remain at your disposal for any questions or additional information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Treyer', is centered below the text 'Yours sincerely,'.

Dr. Sébastien Treyer
IDDRI Executive Director

A. Information about the organization

1. Name of organization

Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations / Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales (IDDRI)

2. Address of headquarters

41 Rue du Four, 75006 Paris, France

Postal address: 27 rue Saint-Guillaume, 75337 Paris Cedex 07

3. Addresses of all branches and/or regional headquarters

Same as under 2.

4. Telephone number

+33 (0)1 45 49 76 60

5. Fax number

+33 (0)1 45 52 63 45

6. Email address

iddri@iddri.org

7. Name, title and contact details of focal point

Dr. Julien Rochette, Ocean Programme Director

julien.rochette@iddri.org

+33 (0)6 75 29 45 36

8. Background information on the organization

The Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) is an independent think tank that facilitates the transition towards sustainable development (<https://www.iddri.org/en>). It was founded in 2001.

To achieve this, IDDRI identifies the conditions and proposes the tools for integrating sustainable development into policies. It takes action at different levels, from international cooperation to that of national and sub-national governments and private companies, with each level informing the other.



As a research institute and a dialogue platform, IDDDRI creates the conditions for a shared analysis and expertise between stakeholders. It connects them in a transparent, collaborative manner, based on leading interdisciplinary research.

IDDDRI then makes its analyses and proposals available to all: www.idddri.org

Four issues are central to the institute's activities: climate, biodiversity and ecosystems, ocean, and sustainable development governance.

9. Is the organization a member of, affiliated to or otherwise associated with another organization that has been granted observer status with the Authority?

No

10. Is the organization affiliated to consultants of the Authority, contractors with the Authority, entities in connection with the law of the sea, the offshore and deep-sea mining industry, research institutes or the mineral marketing and processing industry?

No

11. Relationships with intergovernmental organizations

IDDDRI holds special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and is a partner of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) through the Partnership for Regional Ocean Governance ([PROG](#)). IDDDRI is an accredited observer with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the negotiations for an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.

12. List of publications and/or other relevant documentation:

IDDDRI publications on marine issues are available at <https://www.idddri.org/en/programme/ocean/publications-and-events?type%5B0%5D=pub--all&themes%5B0%5D=65>

B. Interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly

13. Briefly outline how your organization intends to demonstrate its interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly, including by answering questions 14 to 17 and by providing any other relevant information related to the application for observer status.

IDDRI is actively involved in the conservation and sustainable use of ABNJ and has been closely involved in the negotiations for a high seas treaty. Willing to broaden its scope and explore the future of the deep sea, IDDRI's team wishes to become an observer to ISA and participate in future meetings.

14. Briefly outline whether and how the purposes or activities of the organization relate to the work of the Authority.

A Paris-based, independent policy research institute and a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform, IDDRI has a strong track record in strengthening global governance of public goods. It is recognised for having made a significant contribution to shaping the spirit and content of the Paris Agreement, it has supported the development of an ambitious high seas treaty for over 10 years, and has a mandate from the co-chairs of the CBD's Open-Ended Working Group for a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to feed the current negotiations towards COP 15. IDDRI is also heavily involved in the transformation of economic sectors (e.g. energy, agriculture) to support the environmental transition. IDDRI aims to bring its expertise on international environmental negotiations and regulations to the ISA.

15. Briefly outline whether and how your organization intends to contribute to the work of the Authority, for example by providing specialized information, advice or expertise, or by identifying or helping to procure the services of experts or consultants.

IDDRI intends to contribute to the work of the Authority by providing expertise to States and civil society organizations on various deep-sea related matters, including by publishing reports and policy briefs and organizing dedicated stakeholder dialogues.

16. Briefly outline whether and how your organization has the expertise and the capacity to contribute, within its field of competence, to the work of the Authority, in particular in connection with the law of the sea, the protection of the marine environment, the offshore and deep-sea mining industry, technology, minerals processing and marketing, activities in the Area and marine scientific research in the Area.

IDDRI has developed expertise and capacity in the field of the law of the sea, ocean governance and the protection of the marine environment as it supported the development of an ambitious high seas treaty for over 10 years. It also regularly cooperates with regional organizations, in Africa or Latin America. IDDRI has a recognised ability to put forward concrete, ambitious and realistic proposals.

17. Briefly outline whether and how your organization intends to contribute to the capacity-building programmes and initiatives of the Authority (e.g., Secretary-General's award, voluntary commitments of the Authority).

IDDRI brings an extensive network and strong relationships with the French government, the EU and its member States, and Francophone countries. Recent projects have also cemented partnerships in Latin America and Africa, and we work closely with a range of intergovernmental bodies. Our team of dedicated and passionate ocean experts are flexible and stand ready to contribute to the ISA's capacity-building programmes and initiatives where useful.