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**Council**

**Advance Unedited Version**  
26 July 2024

English only

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**Twenty-ninth session**

Council session, part II

Kingston, 15–26 July 2024

Agenda item 16

**Budget of the International Seabed Authority****Decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority  
relating to the budget of the International Seabed Authority  
for the financial period 2025–2026**

*The Council of the International Seabed Authority,*

*Taking into account* the recommendations of the Finance Committee of the International Seabed Authority,<sup>1</sup>

*Noting* that nothing in this decision will in any way create a precedent for other decisions of the Council related to budgetary matters,

1. *Submits* the budget for the financial period 2025–2026, in accordance with Art. 162(2)(r) of the Convention, for the consideration of the Assembly in the amount of \$26,427,000, as proposed by the Secretary-General in document [ISBA/29/A/3/Add.1-ISBA/29/C/11/Add.1](#), and as recommended by the Finance Committee,

2. *Also recommends* that the Assembly adopt the following draft decision [that may include the following paragraphs]:

*The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,*

1. *Approves* the budget for the financial period 2025–2026, after its consideration;

2. *Decides* to increase the level of the Working Capital Fund by \$75,000 to \$825,000 to be collected over the financial periods 2025–2026 and 2027–2028;

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish the scale of assessments for 2025 and 2026 on the basis of the scale used for the regular budget of the United Nations for the period 2022–2024, adjusted for differences in membership between the Authority and the United Nations, taking into account that the maximum assessment rate will be 22 per cent and the minimum rate 0.01 per cent;

4. *Also authorizes* the Secretary-General, for 2025 and 2026, to transfer between sections, subsections and programmes up to 15 per cent of the amount of each section, subsection or programme;

5. *Notes* that the agreed contribution by the European Union to the administrative budget of the Authority shall be \$150,000 per year, effective 1 January 2026;

6. *Urges* the members of the Authority to pay their assessed contributions to the budget as soon as possible, and in full;

7. *Notes with concern* the amounts of outstanding contributions, appeals once more to the members of the Authority to pay outstanding contributions to the budget of the Authority from previous years as soon as possible, and requests the Secretary-General, at his discretion, to continue his efforts to recover those amounts;

8. *Urges* member States that are in arrears in the payment of their financial contributions to the Authority for two full years, thus falling under article 184 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and that wish to exercise their voting rights to indicate their intention to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Urges* member States and other possible donors such as other States, contractors, relevant international organizations, academia, scientific and technical institutions, philanthropic organizations, corporations and private persons to make contributions to the voluntary trust funds of the Authority, and encourages the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to raise awareness among stakeholders regarding this issue;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations in paragraphs 19 and 20 of the report of the Finance Committee<sup>3</sup> without delay;

11. *Reminds* all organs of the Authority that, in accordance with regulation 13 of the Financial Regulations of the Authority, decisions by the Assembly having financial or budgetary implications shall be based on the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

*324<sup>th</sup> Meeting  
26 July 2024*