



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE DEMOCRATIC SOCIALIST
REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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LEG/UN/45(vol III (2024/471))

The Permanent Mission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority and has the honour to refer to Note Verbale No. LEG/UN/45(vol II) 2024-318 dated 5th April 2024 addressed to the Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority by the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the UN in New York, and Note Verbale No. ISA/EOSG/2024/113 dated 17th April 2024 addressed to the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka by the International Seabed Authority, regarding the Application for approval of a plan of work for exploration of cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts located at the Afanasy Nikitin seamount in the Central Indian Ocean, by India.

The Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka wishes to request the International Seabed Authority to circulate the aforesaid Note Verbale of the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York regarding Sri Lanka's position on the above application made by India among the Council and other Organs/Committees of the ISBA that handle the subject matter, in order to ensure that they are aware of Sri Lanka's position prior to the review of the report of the Legal and Technical Committee of the International Seabed Authority.

The Permanent Mission also requests the Secretary General to make a copy of the aforesaid report of the Legal and Technical Committee available to the Permanent Mission as it relates to the continental shelf submission of Sri Lanka.

The Permanent Mission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka to the United Nations in New York avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 28th July 2024

Secretary General
International Seabed Authority
Jamaica

