



**COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY**  
INDICATIVE PROGRAMME OF WORK<sup>1</sup>, v. 13 March 2026.  
**FIRST PART OF THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION, 9-20 March 2026.<sup>2</sup>**

**WEEK 2 (16-20 March 2026)**

Date	Time	Agenda Item
Monday 16 March 2026	10 am – 1 pm Conference Room 1 347 <sup>th</sup> meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Item 7:</b> Report of the Secretary-General on the status of contracts for exploration and related matters, including information on the periodic review of the implementation of approved plans of work for exploration (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/3</a>).</li> <li>• <b>Item 13:</b> Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission at the first part of its thirty-first session (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/4</a>). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preliminary considerations on Council decision <a href="#">ISBA/30/C/19</a> (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/4/Add.1</a>).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Item 15:</b> Report of the Secretary-General concerning the operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission (ISBA/31/C/11 AUV). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft decision of the Council on the election and establishment of the Economic Planning Commission (ISBA/31/C/11 AUV, Annex) .</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Item 19:</b> Report of the Secretary-General on the engagement and cooperation with BBNJ bodies and processes (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/2/Rev.1</a>). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft decision of the Council on engagement with bodies and processes under the Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/2/Rev.1</a>, Annex).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	2 – 3 pm Conference Room 4	<i>Informal meeting (continuation) on <b>Chief Inspector, Inspectors and Inspections</b>. Draft regulations 96ter-101</i>
	3 – 6 pm Conference Room 1 348 <sup>th</sup> meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Item 11:</b> Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. <b>Governance. Rights and Interests of Coastal States (Informal Working Group, Portugal, Singapore)</b>. Draft regulations 4, 4bis and 93bis – 1.5 hours.</li> </ul> <p><i>Regulatory. <b>Modification of a Plan of Work (Friends of the President, U.K.)</b>. Draft regulation 57 – 1.5 hour.</i></p>

<sup>1</sup> Based on the Agenda of the Council ([ISBA/31/C/1](#)) and the indicative list of outstanding issues ([ISBA/30/C/18](#), paragraph 6).

<sup>2</sup> Friday, 20 March 2026, is an official holiday (Eid al-Fitr), observed by the ISA ([ISBA/ST/IC/2025/8](#)).

Date	Time	Agenda Item
Tuesday 17 March 2026	9 – 10 am Conference Room 4	<i>Informal meeting on <b>Closure Plans (Informal Working Group, Fiji)</b>. Draft regulations 59-61 and Annex VIII.</i>
	10 am – 1 pm Conference Room 1 349 <sup>th</sup> meeting	• <u>Item 11</u> : Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. <i>Annexes and Schedule.</i>
	2 – 3 pm Conference Room 4	<i>Informal meeting on <b>ICE Mechanism and Establishment of the Compliance Committee (Informal Working Group, Norway)</b>.</i>
	3 – 6 pm Conference Room 1 350 <sup>th</sup> meeting	• <u>Item 11</u> : Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. <i>Annexes and Schedule.</i>
Wednesday 18 March 2026	10 am – 1 pm Conference Room 1 351 <sup>st</sup> meeting	• <u>Item 11</u> : Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. <i>Environmental. <b>Conditions for beginning Exploitation of the Area</b>. Draft regulation 2(3). Environmental. <b>Definition of "Incident" and "Notifiable Event"</b>. Schedule. Regulatory. <b>Treatment of the Enterprise</b>. Draft regulation 19 and Schedule. Regulatory. <b>Parent Company Liability</b>. Draft regulations 23, paragraph 5(d), 24, Annex XI and Schedule.</i>
	2 – 3 pm Conference Room 4	<i>Informal meeting. <b>Effective Control (Informal Working Group, Chile, Costa Rica)</b>.</i> ➤ <i>Schedule and definition.</i> ➤ <i>Draft regulations 5-7, 13, 21, 24, 24bis, 40, Annex I.</i>

Date	Time	Agenda Item
	3 – 6 pm Conference Room 1 352 <sup>nd</sup> meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Item 5</a>: Report of the Secretary-General on the credentials of members of the Council.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Item 10</a>: Consideration, with a view to approval, of applications for extension of a contract for exploration.<sup>3</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/5</a>, <a href="#">ISBA/31/C/L.2</a>).</li> <li>- JSC Yuzhmorgeologiya (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/6</a>, <a href="#">ISBA/31/C/L.3</a>).</li> <li>- Government of the Republic of Korea (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/7</a>, <a href="#">ISBA/31/C/L.4</a>).</li> <li>- China Ocean Mineral Resources Research and Development Association (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/8</a>, <a href="#">ISBA/31/C/L.5</a>).</li> <li>- Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/9</a>, <a href="#">ISBA/31/C/L.6</a>).</li> <li>- Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (<a href="#">ISBA/31/C/10</a>, <a href="#">ISBA/31/C/L.7</a>).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Thursday 19 March 2026	10 am – 1 pm Conference Room 1 353 <sup>rd</sup> meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Item 11</a>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. <i>Regulatory. <b>Resources Covered by the Regulations. Preamble.</b></i> <i>Regulatory. <b>Confidential Information and Procedures to Ensure Confidentiality. Draft regulations 89-91.</b></i> <i>Regulatory. <b>Whistleblowing Protections. Draft regulation 101bis.</b></i> <i>Regulatory. <b>Review of the Regulations. Draft regulation 107.</b></i></li> </ul>
	3 – 6 pm Conference Room 1 354 <sup>th</sup> meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Item 11</a>: Consideration, with a view to adoption, of the draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of Standard and Guidelines.</li> <li>- Review of the progress on the draft regulations.</li> <li>- Agreement on necessary intersessional work.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Adoption of draft decisions (as required).</li> <li>• End of the first part of the thirty-first session.</li> </ul>
Friday 20 March 2026 <b>Official holiday<sup>4</sup></b>		

13 March 2026.

<sup>3</sup> To be taken up following consideration by the Legal and Technical Commission.

<sup>4</sup> Friday, 20 March 2026, is an official holiday (Eid al-Fitr), observed by the ISA ([ISBA/ST/IC/2025/8](#)).