



Order on discontinuance of Proceedings

Mariana Durney (the "Appellant")

v.

**Secretary General of the International Seabed Authority
(the "Respondent")**

Case No. ISBA/JAB/Durney/2024

Order No. 8 (2025)

1. On 4 December 2024, the Appellant, Ms. Mariana Durney, filed an appeal before the Joint Appeals Board (JAB) of the International Seabed Authority (the "Authority"), contesting the decision of the former Secretary-General not to renew her two-year fixed-term appointment as Legal Counsel/Director of the Office of Legal Affairs ("OLA"), as set out in an Interoffice Memorandum dated 7 August 2024.
2. The Appellant's fixed-term appointment began on 15 September 2022 and ended on 14 September 2024. Following the non-renewal decision, the Appellant was separated from service effective 15 September 2024.
3. On 4 October 2024, the Appellant submitted a request to the former Secretary-General to review the contested decision pursuant to Rule 11.2(ii) of the Staff Rules. The request was rejected on 4 November 2024.
4. The Appellant thereafter submitted a formal appeal to the JAB on 4 December 2024 in accordance with Rule 11.2(d) of the Staff Rules. The Secretary-General filed a reply to the appeal on 27 December 2024.
5. On 28 January, 25 March, and 28 April 2025, the parties jointly requested adjournments of the proceedings in order to engage in settlement negotiations pursuant to Rule 24(1) of the JAB Rules of Procedure. The Panel granted the requested adjournments, with the final adjournment extending the suspension of proceedings until 26 May 2025.
6. During the course of these negotiations, the Appellant was recruited by the Authority as Special Legal Advisor effective 1 March 2025.



7. On 1 May 2025, the Appellant submitted a formal notice of withdrawal of appeal and requested that the proceedings be discontinued, indicating that a settlement agreement had been reached by both parties resolving all matters in dispute.
8. Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the JAB provides for the discontinuance of proceedings upon withdrawal of an appeal by the appellant.
9. The Panel takes note of the Appellant's request to discontinue the proceedings, as well as the Respondent's notice and acknowledgment of same.

ORDER

10. In light of the settlement reached by the parties and the formal notice of withdrawal submitted by the Appellant, the Panel of the Joint Appeals Board hereby ORDERS that:
11. The case ISBA/JAB/Durney/2024, Mariana Durney vs. Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, be CLOSED.
12. The case shall be removed from the register of the JAB.

Dated 5 May 2025

Judge Helmut Tuerk

Panel Chair

Julio Baez

Panel Member

Michelle Walker

Panel Member