



Order on request for extension of time limit to respond

Giovanni Ardito (the "Appellant")

v.

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

Case No. ISBA/JAB/APPEAL/ARDITO/2025

Order No. 9 (2025)

1. The Appellant filed an appeal on 4 March 2025, contesting the decision of the Secretary General ("Respondent") to withdraw his appointment as a staff member of the Authority.
2. On 7 March 2025, the Secretariat of the Joint Appeals Board (JAB) acknowledged receipt of the appeal, At the same time, the Secretariat informed the Appellant that the JAB Rules of Procedure had been revised with effect from 4 March 2025 and advised that, should the Appellant wish to submit his appeal under the revised Rules, he could do so by no later than 7 April 2025, as proposed by the Chair of the JAB.
3. Also on 7 March 2025, the Appellant resubmitted the same appeal initially filed on 4 March 2025 and reserved his right to make additional submissions.
4. On 14 March 2025, the Chair of the JAB inquired both parties whether they wished to enter into a conciliation process in accordance with the JAB Rules of Procedure. The Respondent declined the offer on 21 March 2025.
5. On 24 March 2025, the JAB Secretariat formally notified the Respondent of the appeal and invited the submission of a reply by 23 April 2025.
6. On 28 March 2025, both parties were informed that the appeal would be considered by the full Board.
7. On 23 April 2025, the Respondent submitted her reply.



8. On 24 April 2025, the JAB Secretariat transmitted the Respondent's reply to the Appellant and invited his comments thereon by 22 May 2025.
9. On 5 May 2025, the Appellant submitted a written request for an extension of 10 working days to the deadline for his comments, citing exceptional personal circumstances that have significantly limited his ability to prepare a response.
10. Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedures of the JAB establishes that time limits for supplementary submissions may be extended if a written request is made before the deadline, stating the reason and needed time.
11. The Chair of the JAB takes note of the exceptional personal circumstances described by the Appellant and considers the request reasonable.
12. The Chair of the JAB finds that an extension would not unduly prejudice the proceedings or the Respondent.

ORDER

13. For the aforementioned reasons, the Appellant's request for an extension of time is GRANTED.
14. The deadline for submitting his comments on the Respondent's reply is hereby extended by 10 working days from 22 May 2025 to 6 June 2025.

Dated 7 May 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "M. Halfeld", is placed on a light-colored rectangular background.

Judge Martha Halfeld Furtado de Mendonça Schmidt
Chair of the Joint Appeals Board