



# Assembly

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## Thirty-first session

Kingston, 27–31 July 2026

Item 7 of the provisional agenda\*

**Consideration of requests for observer status in accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure of the Assembly**

## **Request for observer status in accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly by the Natural History Museum**

### **Note by the secretariat**

1. On 11 February 2026, the Natural History Museum submitted an application to the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, prepared in the format prescribed in enclosure 1 to the guidelines for observer status of non-governmental organizations with the International Seabed Authority, adopted by the Assembly at its twenty-fifth session (ISBA/25/A/16, annex). The text of the letter and the application form provided by the applicant can be found on the website of the Authority.<sup>1</sup>
2. In accordance with rule 82, paragraph 1 (e), of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, non-governmental organizations with which the Secretary-General has entered into arrangements in accordance with article 169, paragraph 1, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and other non-governmental organizations invited by the Assembly that have demonstrated their interest in matters under consideration by the Assembly may participate as observers in the Assembly.
3. Paragraphs 5 and 6 of the same rule also provide that observers referred to in paragraph 1 (e) of the rule may sit at public meetings of the Assembly and, upon the invitation of the President and subject to approval by the Assembly, may make oral statements on questions within the scope of their activities, and that written statements submitted by observers referred to in paragraph 1 (e) of the rule within the scope of their activities that are relevant to the work of the Assembly should be made available by the secretariat in the quantities and in the languages in which the statements are submitted.

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\* ISBA/31/A/L.1.

<sup>1</sup> See [https://isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/ISA-Observer-Status-Application\\_NHM.pdf](https://isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/ISA-Observer-Status-Application_NHM.pdf).

