



COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY
INDICATIVE PROGRAMME OF WORK¹ v.9 July 2026
Second part of the thirty-first session, 13-24 July 2026.

WEEK 1 (13-17 July 2026)

Date	Time	Agenda Item
Monday 13 July 2026	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 1</u>: Resumption of the session. • <u>Item 6</u>: Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission (Namibia), ISBA/31/C/20. • <u>Item 21</u>: Other matters. – Status of the proceeding before ITLOS. – Consideration of a third part of the thirty-first session. • <u>Item 11</u>: Consideration, with a view to adoption, of the draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area. – Presentation of the Rev. 3 of the Further Revised Consolidated Text of the draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area, ISBA/31/C/CRP.1/Rev.3 (PDF/Word). – Presentation of the revised indicative list of outstanding issues and examination by the Council, ISBA/31/C/CRP.7. – Regulatory. Chief Inspector, Inspectors and Inspections. Draft regulations 97 bis-101 (continuation from 1st part of 31st session).
	1:45–3:00 pm Delegates Dining Room	Dialogue hosted by the Legal and Technical Commission: REMPs .
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Regulatory. Chief Inspector, Inspectors and Inspections. Draft regulations 97 bis-101 (continuation from 1st part of 31st session).

¹ Based on the Agenda of the Council ([ISBA/31/C/1](#)).

Date	Time	Agenda Item
Tuesday 14 July 2026	8:45–10:00 am Delegates Dining Room	Dialogue hosted by the Legal and Technical Commission: <i>Development of environmental threshold values.</i>
	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 13</u>: Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission during the second part of its thirty-first session.
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Annexes.
Wednesday 15 July 2026	9:00–10:00 am Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> Authority’s working modalities , cross-cutting issue.
	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Annexes.
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Environmental. Protection of Submarine Cables (Friends of the President, Singapore), draft regulations 31 and 31 bis. Guiding questions for discussion – 1.5 hours. – Regulatory. Review of These Regulations (Friends of the President, Belgium), draft regulation 107 – 1.5 hours.
Thursday 16 July 2026	9:00–10:00 am Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> Non-confidentiality of Environmental Data , draft regulation 89, paragraph (3)(f).
	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Annexes and Schedule.
	2:00–3:00 pm Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> Financial. Equalization Measure (Informal Working Group, Australia) , draft regulation 64 bis and Draft Equalisation Standard.

Date	Time	Agenda Item
	3:00 – 6:00 pm Conference Room #4	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Financial. Payment System and Review of Payment Mechanism (Friends of the President, Canada), draft regulations 81-82, Draft Standard and Guidelines and Schedule – 1.5 hours. – Financial. Monopolization (Friends of the President, Trinidad & Tobago), draft regulations 13, 15, 24, 24 bis and Schedule – 1.5 hours.
Friday 17 July 2026	9:00–10:00 am Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> Regulatory. Whistleblowing Protections , draft regulation 101 bis (deferred from 1 st part of 31 st session). – Draft General Policy on Whistleblowing, ISBA/31/C/CRP.9.
	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Environmental. Reference to REMPs (Informal Working Group, Netherlands), cross-cutting issues. Note for the discussion – 1.5 hours. – Environmental. Environmental Management and Monitoring (Informal Working Group, Norway), draft regulations 49-52 – 1.5 hours.
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Annexes and Schedule - 1 hour. – Regulatory. Effective Control (Informal Working Group, Chile, Costa Rica) (deferred from 1st part of 31st session), draft standard and introductory note. ➤ Schedule and definition – 1 hour. ➤ Draft regulations 5-7, 13, 21, 24, 24 bis, 40, Annex I – 1 hour.

WEEK 2 (20-24 July 2026)

Date	Time	Agenda Item
Monday 20 July 2026	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 6</u>: Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission (Republic of Korea). • <u>Item 8</u>: Report of the Secretary-General on the status of national legislation relating to deep seabed mining and related matters, ISBA/31/C/21. • <u>Item 7</u>: 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, ISBA/31/C/3/Add.1. • <u>Item 12</u>: Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the decision of the Council in 2025 relating to the reports of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission, ISBA/31/C/24.
	2:00–3:00 pm Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> ICE Mechanism (Informal Working Group, Norway) , draft regulation 95bis, draft decision on the establishment of the Compliance Committee.
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 15</u>: Operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission. – Draft decision of the Council on the election mechanisms of the Economic Planning Commission, ISBA/31/C/CRP.6. • <u>Item 9</u>: Consideration, with a view to approval, of applications for a plan of work for exploration. • <u>Item 10</u>: Consideration, with a view to approval, of applications for extension of a contract for exploration. • <u>Item 14</u>: Report of the interim Director-General of the Enterprise, ISBA/31/C/23 – ISBA/31/A/6.
Tuesday 21 July 2026	9 am – 10 am Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> Environmental. Closure Plans (Informal Working Group, Fiji) , draft regulations 50-51 and Annex VIII.
	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Environmental. Test Mining and Pilot Mining (Informal Working Group, Belgium, China, Germany), draft regulation 48 ter (and draft regulations 7,11,12,13,46,48, 48 bis, Annex VII and Schedule) – 1.5 hours. – Environmental. Joint meeting Closure Plans (Informal Working Group, Fiji) and Environmental Management and Monitoring (Informal Working Group, Norway) – 1.5 hours.

Date	Time	Agenda Item
	2:00–3:00 pm Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> Regulatory. Seabed Mining Register (Friends of the President, India) , draft regulation 92.
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Environmental. Environmental Compensation Fund (Friends of the President, Mexico), section 4 (draft regulations 54-56) – 1.5 hours. – Regulatory. Compliance and enforcement measures (Friends of the President, Netherlands), draft regulations 103-105, note for discussion – 1.5 hours.
Wednesday 22 July 2026	9 am – 10 am Conference Room #4	<i>Informal meeting</i> Potentially Polluting Wrecks (Friends of the President, Spain) , briefing note and textual proposal .
	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Governance. Rights and Interests of Coastal States (Informal Working Group, Portugal, Singapore), draft regulations 4, 4 bis and 93 bis – 1.5 hours. – Governance. Underwater Cultural Heritage (Informal Working Group, Brazil, Greece, Micronesia), draft regulations 35, 35 Alt and other related draft regulations – 1.5 hours.
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Environmental. Environmental Goals and Objectives (Friends of the President, Germany), draft regulation 44 ter – 1.5 hours. – Annexes and Schedule.
Thursday 23 July 2026	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 5</u>: Report of the Secretary-General on the credentials of members of the Council. • <u>Item 16</u>: Report of the Finance Committee. • <u>Item 15</u>: Operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission. – Report of the Finance Committee on the financial implications and the most practical timelines for the Economic Planning Commission.
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 17</u>: Budget of the International Seabed Authority, ISBA/31/A/4-ISBA/31/C/22. – Draft decision of the Council relating to financial and budgetary matters. • <u>Item 18</u>: Adoption of the scale of assessment for contributions to the budget of the International Seabed Authority for the financial period 2027–2028.

Date	Time	Agenda Item
Friday 24 July 2026	10:00 am–1:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Negotiations on the Further Revised Consolidated Text. – Standard and Guidelines.²
	3:00 – 6:00 pm	• <u>Item 11</u>: Consideration, with a view to adoption, of the draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area. - Assessment of the remaining work that would be needed prior to the adoption of the rules, regulations and procedures and establishment of a road map to that end.³ - Agreement on necessary intersessional work. • Adoption of draft decisions (as required). • <u>Item 20</u>: Dates of the next session. • End of the second part of the thirty-first session.

² According to ISBA/31/C/19/Rev.1, paragraph 42.

³ According to ISBA/30/C/18, paragraph 8.