

Item 19 of the provisional agenda*

Election to fill the vacancies on the Council, in accordance with article 161, paragraph 3, of the Convention

INDICATIVE LIST OF MEMBER STATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY WHICH WOULD FULFIL THE CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE VARIOUS GROUPS OF STATES IN THE COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3, PARAGRAPH 15, OF THE ANNEX TO THE AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PART XI OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982

Prepared by the Secretariat

Introduction

1. In 1994, at the request of a number of delegations, the Secretariat prepared an informal paper in order to facilitate the determination of States which would fulfil the criteria for membership in the various groups of States in the Council of the International Seabed Authority (the “Authority”). Similar lists were prepared by the Secretariat for each successive election of the members of the Council since.

2. The requirement for the lists is contained in section 3, paragraph 9 (b) of the Annex to the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the “Agreement”), which states:

“Before electing the members of the Council, the Assembly shall establish lists of countries fulfilling the criteria for membership in the groups of States in paragraph 15 (a) to (d). If a State fulfils the criteria for membership in more than one group, it may only be proposed by one group for election to the Council and it shall represent only that group in voting in the Council.”

3. In accordance with section 3, paragraph 15 of the Annex to the Agreement, the Council of the Authority shall consist of 36 members of the Authority elected by the Assembly in the following order:

(a) Four members from among those States Parties which, during the last five years for which statistics are available, have either consumed more than 2 per cent in value terms of total world consumption or have had net imports of more than 2 per cent in value terms of total world imports of the commodities produced from the categories of minerals to be derived from the Area, provided that the four members shall include one State from the Eastern Europe region having the largest economy in that region in terms of gross domestic product and the State, on the date of entry into force of the Convention, having the largest economy in terms of gross domestic product, if such States wish to be represented in this group **[Group A]**;

(b) Four members from among the eight States Parties which have made the largest investments in preparation for and in the conduct of activities in the Area, either directly or through their nationals **[Group B]**;

(c) Four members from among States Parties which, on the basis of production in areas under their jurisdiction, are major net exporters of the categories of minerals to be derived from the Area, including at least two developing States whose exports of such minerals have a substantial bearing upon their economies **[Group C]**;

(d) Six members from among developing States Parties, representing special interests. The special interests to be represented shall include those of States with large populations, States which are landlocked or geographically disadvantaged, island States, States which are major importers of the categories of minerals to be

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

derived from the Area, States which are potential producers of such minerals and least developed States [**Group D**];

(e) Eighteen members elected according to the principle of ensuring an equitable geographical distribution of seats in the Council as a whole, provided that each geographical region shall have at least one member elected under this subparagraph. For this purpose, the geographical regions shall be Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Europe and Others [**Group E**];

4. The lists of States contained in the present paper are of a purely indicative nature and not necessarily exhaustive.

GROUP A

List 1

MAJOR CONSUMERS OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD CONSUMPTION OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA ¹

State	Cumulative value of net consumption (2020-2024) (\$ US millions) ²	Approximate percentage of world consumption (2020-2024) ³
China	728,715	50.6%
Indonesia	129,829	9.0%
USA*	61,499	4.3%
India	55,247	3.8%
Republic of Korea	39,532	2.7%
Japan	32,834	2.3%
Mexico	29,320	2.0%
Others	362,495	25.2%

*Non-members of the International Seabed Authority.

¹ Based on list 2 of ISBA/31/A/CRP.2.

² Cumulative consumption of the commodities produced from cobalt, copper, manganese and nickel.

³ Total world consumption is calculated as the sum of cumulative consumption of all the States, which either produce, import and export or only import and export the commodities produced from cobalt, copper, manganese, and nickel.

List 2

MAJOR CONSUMERS⁴ OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD CONSUMPTION OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA (COBALT, COPPER, MANGANESE, NICKEL)

Cobalt			Copper			Manganese			Nickel		
Country	Consumption		Country	Consumption		Country	Consumption		Country	Consumption	
	(USD millions)	% world total		(USD millions)	% world total		(USD millions)	% world total		(USD millions)	% world total
China	18,198	55.0%	China	619,069	61.0%	China	21,869	38.0%	Indonesia	126,802	37.3%
Indonesia	2,889	8.7%	USA*	57,904	5.7%	India	7,126	12.4%	China	69,579	20.5%
Russian Federation	1,398	4.2%	India	42,838	4.2%	Australia	5,187	9.0%	Philippines	26,775	7.9%
Republic of Korea	1,356	4.1%	Republic of Korea	28,140	2.8%	Gabon	5,094	8.8%	France	20,148	5.9%
Japan	1,243	3.8%	Mexico	27,867	2.7%	Republic of Korea	2,154	3.7%	Japan	12,727	3.7%
Cuba	866	2.6%	Congo, Democratic Republic of	21,144	2.1%	Japan	1,779	3.1%	Australia	12,297	3.6%
France	711	2.1%	Italy	20,306	2.0%	Russian Federation	1,292	2.2%	Russian Federation	8,018	2.4%
Others	6,455	19.5%	Others	196,970	19.4%	Malaysia	1,171	2.0%	Republic of Korea	7,882	2.3%
						Others	11,905	20.7%	Brazil	6,974	2.1%
									Others	48,724	14.3%

⁴ Consumption is calculated as the value of the national production plus imports, minus exports, or simply imports minus exports where there is no production. Countries which have data available on import, production and export but whose production/export of the four minerals have a substantial bearing upon their economies are classified as producers/exporters. Import and export statistics are obtained from UN Statistics Division, COMTRADE Database (2020-2024). Mine production obtained from British Geological Survey, World Mineral Production (2019-2023). Unit metal prices used for calculation of value in US dollars for the four minerals produced are approximate and are based on the five-year average market price over 2020-2024.

List 3

MAJOR NET IMPORTERS OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD IMPORTS OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA⁵

State	Cumulative net imports (2020-2024) (USD millions)	Approximate percentage of world imports of US
China	712,206	39.8%
Japan	99,757	5.6%
USA*	94,410	5.3%
Germany	91,082	5.1%
Republic of Korea	77,303	4.3%
India	63,124	3.5%
Italy	53,320	3.0%
Others	598,180	33.4%

*Non-members of the International Seabed Authority.

⁵ Based on list 4 of ISBA/31/A/CRP.2. Selected trade flows: Import; Source: <https://comtradeplus.un.org> .

List 4

MAJOR IMPORTERS⁶ OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD IMPORT OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORY OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA

(a) Cobalt and Copper

Cobalt						Copper					
Ores & Concentrates			Articles			Ores & Concentrates			Articles		
State	USD million	% of world	State	USD million	% of world	State	USD million	% of world	State	USD million	% of world
China	19,572	63.6%	Republic of Korea	774	23.0%	China	276,752	59.9%	China	324,852	31.5%
Japan	1,734	5.6%	Zambia	377	11.2%	Japan	61,896	13.4%	USA*	72,755	7.1%
USA*	1,708	5.6%	Belgium	374	11.1%	Republic of Korea	27,818	6.0%	Germany	64,211	6.2%
Germany	793	2.6%	Namibia	353	10.5%	Germany	13,864	3.0%	Italy	47,196	4.6%
Belgium	711	2.3%	Spain	274	8.2%	India	13,456	2.9%	India	37,885	3.7%
United Kingdom	705	2.3%	USA*	234	7.0%	Spain	11,824	2.6%	Republic of Korea	36,759	3.6%
Republic of Korea	692	2.2%	Germany	162	4.8%	Bulgaria	10,368	2.2%	Thailand	27,399	2.7%
Other	4,863	15.8%	Japan	158	4.7%	Other	46,289	10.0%	Belgium	23,862	2.3%
			Italy	95	2.8%				France	22,900	2.2%
			China	74	2.2%				Mexico	21,190	2.1%
			France	69	2.1%				Other	351,193	34.1%
			Other	415	12.4%						

*Non-members of the International Seabed Authority. **MAJOR IMPORTERS OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD IMPORT OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORY OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA**

⁶ Source of import data is UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, Trade data, UN Comtrade: <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> Selected trade flow: Import. Years: 2020 - 2024.

List 4 continued...

(b) Manganese and Nickel

Manganese						Nickel					
Ores & Concentrates			Articles			Ores & Concentrates			Articles		
State	USD million	% of world	State	USD million	% of world	State	USD million	% of world	State	USD million	% of world
China	24,914	62.8%	Republic of Korea	1,116	15.6%	China	18,031	70.9%	China	47,659	25.3%
India	5,142	13.0%	Japan	981	13.7%	Canada	2,287	9.0%	USA*	17,650	9.4%
Norway	1,210	3.1%	Germany	638	8.9%	Republic of Korea	1,461	5.7%	Japan	17,332	9.2%
Republic of Korea	1,089	2.7%	India	578	8.1%	Finland	1,308	5.1%	Norway	12,448	6.6%
Japan	1,032	2.6%	USA*	526	7.3%	Japan	883	3.5%	Germany	11,152	5.9%
Malaysia	916	2.3%	Netherlands	508	7.1%	Other	1,472	5.8%	Republic of Korea	7,595	4.0%
Other	5,356	13.5%	Brazil	408	5.7%				United Kingdom	7,343	3.9%
			China	351	4.9%				France	7,010	3.7%
			Austria	262	3.7%				Finland	6,481	3.4%
			Russian Federation	259	3.6%				Italy	5,685	3.0%
			France	199	2.8%				India	5,618	3.0%
			Mexico	192	2.7%				Netherlands	4,925	2.6%
			Other	1,146	2.9%				Other	37,668	20.0%

*Non-members of the International Seabed Authority.

GROUP B

List 5

STATES WHICH HAVE MADE THE LARGEST INVESTMENT IN PREPARATION FOR AND IN THE CONDUCT OF ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH THEIR NATIONALS

1. With respect to this Group, the Assembly is required to elect four States Parties from among the eight States Parties, which have made the largest investments in preparation for and in conduct of activities in the Area, either directly or through their nationals.
2. For this purpose, the Assembly will need to ascertain, which States Parties are currently the largest investors. In 1995, following consultations and exchange of information among the following eighteen States, which considered themselves as belonging to this category on the basis of the previous investments in deep seabed mining activities, there was agreement within the Group that the eight largest investors at the time (1995) were China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, the Russian Federation and the United States of America (ISBA/A/L.1, para. 14).
3. Pursuant to a request made initially at the ninth session by one delegation, the Secretary-General had, prior to each election for Group B, written to each of the member States listed below, inviting them to provide such information as may be considered appropriate to enable the Secretariat to update the present indicative list. In line with this practice, the Secretary-General wrote to the member States listed below on 25 November 2025. The responses were expected by 31 January 2026. As of 15 June 2026, three responses were received from three member States. In light of this, the Secretariat has not made any changes to the Group B indicative list established in 1995.

States eligible for membership in Group B (list established in 1995)	
Belgium*	Italy
Bulgaria*	Japan*
Canada	Netherlands
China*	Poland*
Cuba*	Republic of Korea*
Czechia*	Russian Federation *
France*	Slovakia*
Germany*	United Kingdom*
India*	United States of America**

* The State has a contract with the Authority or is a sponsoring State of a contractor.

** Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority. Pursuant to article 7 of the 1994 Agreement and paragraph 12(a), section 1 of the annex to the 1994 Agreement, the United States of America had been a member of the Authority on a provisional basis until 1998.

GROUP C

List 6

MAJOR PRODUCERS AND NET EXPORTERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA (COBALT, COPPER, MANGANESE, NICKEL)

List 6-A

A. COBALT

COBALT						
Mine Production (2020-2024)⁷				Exports of Ores and Concentrates (2020-2024)⁸		
Country	Metal Content, metric tonnes	% of World Production	Value (USD millions)	Country	Value (USD millions)	% of World Export
Congo, Democratic Republic	660,944	71.0%	27,591	Congo, Democratic Republic	26.73	39.11%
Indonesia	69,200	7.4%	2,889	Italy	14.67	21.47%
Russian Federation	39,700	4.3%	1,657	South Africa	5.91	8.65%
Australia	26,653	2.9%	1,113	Germany	3.99	5.84%
Cuba	20,750	2.2%	866	United Kingdom	2.32	3.40%
Canada	20,005	2.2%	835	Malaysia	1.37	2.01%
Others	93,148	10.0%	3,888	Others	13.34	19.52%

⁷ Data based on British Geological Survey, Worlds Mineral Production 2019-2023 and USGS data for 2024. Unit Price used US\$ 41,745 per tonne of monthly closing prices 2020-2024.

⁸ [UN Comtrade](#), selected classification: HS2605 as reported, selected years: 2020-2024.

List 6-B

B. COPPER

COPPER						
Mine Production (2020-2024) ⁹				Exports of Ores and Concentrates (2020-2024) ¹⁰		
Country	Metal Content, metric tonnes	% of World Production	Value (USD million)	Country	Value (USD million \$)	% of World Export
Chile	27,571,194	24.9%	230,725	Chile	129,933	30.3%
Peru*	12,424,248	11.2%	103,970	Peru*	78,302	18.3%
Congo, Democratic Republic	12,291,767	11.1%	102,862	Indonesia	33,338	7.8%
China	9,095,310	8.2%	76,113	Australia	22,895	5.3%
USA*	5,810,000	5.3%	48,620	Canada	17,807	4.2%
Russian Federation	4,710,800	4.3%	39,422	Mexico	16,872	3.9%
Indonesia	4,155,055	3.8%	34,771	Brazil	16,148	3.8%
Australia	4,038,711	3.7%	33,797	USA*	13,730	3.2%
Zambia	3,926,859	3.6%	32,861	Kazakhstan*	11,611	2.7%
Mexico	3,906,471	3.5%	32,691	Mongolia	10,038	2.3%
Kazakhstan*	2,958,700	2.7%	24,759	Others	77,905	18.2%
Canada	2,669,508	2.4%	22,339			
Others	17,048,570	15.4%	142,668			

*Non-members of the International Seabed Authority.

⁹ Data based on British Geological Survey, Worlds Mineral Production 2019-2023 and USGS data for 2024. Unit Price used US\$ 8,368.34 per tonne of LME monthly averages cash settlement price 2020-2024.

¹⁰ [UN Comtrade](#), selected classification: HS2603 as reported, selected years: 2020-2024.

List 6-C

C. MANGANESE

MANGANESE						
Mine Production (2020-2024) ¹¹				Exports of Ores and Concentrates (2020-2024) ¹²		
Country	Metal Content ('000 metric tonnes)	% of World Production	Value (USD millions)	Country	Value (USD million)	% of World Export
South Africa	92,971	35.2%	14,894	South Africa	10,804	60.5%
Gabon	48,426	26.9%	11,401	Gabon	4,607	25.8%
China	35,904	4.2%	1,770	Brazil	875	4.9%
Australia	29,079	12.0%	5,061	Ghana	571	3.2%
Ghana	16,564	4.5%	1,893	Others	994	5.6%
India	14,712	3.7%	1,558			
Brazil	9,011	3.2%	1,353			
Others	28,770	1596.5%	4,397			

¹¹ Data based on British Geological Survey, Worlds Mineral Production 2019-2023 and USGS data for 2024. Unit Price used for less than 44% Mn metal in ore US\$4.17 per metric tonne unit of ore; for 44% or more Mn metal US\$5.23 per metric tonne unit of ore (Source CRU via USGS database).

¹² [UN Comtrade](#), selected classification: HS2602 as reported, selected years: 2020-2024.

List 6-D

D. NICKEL

NICKEL						
Mine Production (2020-2024)¹³				Exports of Ores and Concentrates (2020-2024)		
Country	Metal Content, metric tonnes	% of World Production	Value (USD millions)	Country	Value (USD millions)	% of World Export
Indonesia	7,755,000	48.5%	149,226	Philippines	5,908	32.0%
Philippines	1,815,731	11.4%	34,939	Zimbabwe	3,869	20.9%
Russian Federation	1,265,550	7.9%	24,352	Russian Federation	1,529	8.3%
France	932,927	5.8%	17,952	Finland	1,515	8.2%
Canada	733,142	4.6%	14,108	USA*	1,290	7.0%
Australia	722,317	4.5%	13,899	Brazil	1,112	6.0%
China	545,574	3.4%	10,498	Australia	1,092	5.9%
Brazil	348,067	2.2%	6,698	Canada	723	3.9%
Others	1,863,321	11.7%	35,855	Zambia	704	3.8%
				Others	750	4.1%

*Non-members of the International Seabed Authority.

¹³ Data based on British Geological Survey, Worlds Mineral Production 2019-2023 and USGS data for 2024. Unit Price used US\$ 19,243 per tonne of LME monthly average cash settlement price 2020-2024.

GROUP D

List 7

DEVELOPING STATES WITH A LARGE POPULATION¹⁴

State	Population (millions) in 2024	Percentage of World Population in 2024 (8,161.98 million)
India	1,450.94	17.8%
China	1,419.32	17.4%
Indonesia	283.49	3.5%
Pakistan	251.27	3.1%
Nigeria	232.68	2.9%
Brazil	212.00	2.6%
Bangladesh	173.56	2.1%

¹⁴ Source: United Nations Trade and Development Data Hub, UNCTADstat Data Centre (<https://unctadstat.unctad.org/datacentre/>)

List 8

DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE LANDLOCKED OR GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED

Land-locked Countries (22)¹⁵	Geographically Disadvantaged (15)¹⁶
Armenia	Algeria
Azerbaijan	Bahrain
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Cameroon
Botswana	Congo, Democratic Republic of
Burkina Faso	Djibouti
Chad	Gambia
Eswatini	Iraq
Kyrgyzstan	Jamaica
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Jordan
Lesotho	Kuwait
North Macedonia	Montenegro
Malawi	Qatar
Mali	Serbia
Moldova, Republic of	Singapore
Mongolia	Sudan
Nepal	
Niger	
Paraguay	
Rwanda	
Uganda	
Zambia	
Zimbabwe	

¹⁵ Source: United Nations Trade and Development <https://unctad.org/topic/landlocked-developing-countries/list-of-LLDCs> ; the table is limited to members of the Authority only.

¹⁶ Source: Source of geographically disadvantaged developing States is List 8 of ISBA/24/A/CRP.2 (24 May 2018).

List 9

SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES¹⁷

Members of the United Nations	Non-Members of the United Nations
Antigua and Barbuda	Cook Islands
Bahamas	Niue
Barbados	
Belize	
Cabo Verde	
Comoros	
Cuba	
Dominica	
Dominican Republic	
Fiji	
Grenada	
Guinea-Bissau	
Guyana	
Haiti	
Jamaica	
Kiribati	
Maldives	
Marshall Islands	
Mauritius	
Micronesia, Federated States of	
Nauru	
Palau	
Papua New Guinea	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	
Saint Lucia	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	
Samoa	
Sao Tome and Príncipe	
Seychelles	
Singapore	
Solomon Islands	
Suriname	
Timor-Leste	
Tonga	
Trinidad and Tobago	
Tuvalu	
Vanuatu	

¹⁷ Source: List of SIDS | Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (<https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/list-sids>)

List 10

**DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE MAJOR IMPORTERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS
TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA¹⁸**

Cobalt	Copper	Manganese	Nickel
China	China	China	China
Zambia	India	India	India
Namibia	Thailand	Brazil	Brazil
Malaysia	Malaysia	Malaysia	Singapore

¹⁸ Source: List 4 and List 11.

List 11

DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE MAJOR IMPORTERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA¹⁹

Country	Mineral Commodity	Approximate % of World Import	Trade Value (USD million)
China	Copper	40.3%	601,604
	Cobalt	55.4%	19,647
	Nickel	30.7%	65,690
	Manganese	53.3%	25,265
India	Copper	3.4%	51,341
	Cobalt	1.3%	444
	Nickel	2.6%	5,619
	Manganese	12.1%	5,720
Thailand	Copper	1.8%	27,402
Mexico	Nickel	1.0%	2,189
Malaysia	Copper	1.5%	22,690
	Manganese	3.1%	1,468

¹⁹ Based on list 4.

List 12

DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE POTENTIAL PRODUCERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA²⁰

Country	Minerals	Country	Minerals
Afghanistan*	Nickel	Kosovo*	Nickel
Albania	Copper	Kyrgyzstan	Copper
Argentina	Copper	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Copper
Armenia	Copper	Macedonia, North	Copper, Nickel
Azerbaijan	Copper	Mauritania	Copper
Bolivia	Copper	Mexico	Copper, Manganese
Botswana	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel	Mongolia	Copper
Brazil	Cobalt, Copper, Manganese, Nickel	Morocco	Cobalt, Copper, Manganese, Nickel
Chile	Copper	Namibia	Copper, Manganese
China	Cobalt, Copper, Manganese, Nickel	Pakistan	Copper
Colombia*	Copper, Nickel	Papua New Guinea	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel
Congo, D.R.	Cobalt, Copper	Peru*	Copper
Côte d'Ivoire	Manganese	Philippines	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel
Cuba	Cobalt, Nickel	Romania	Copper, Manganese
D.P.R of Korea*	Copper	Rwanda	
Dominican Republic	Copper, Nickel	Serbia	Copper
Ecuador	Copper	South Africa	Cobalt, Copper, Manganese, Nickel
Eritrea*	Copper	Tanzania, United Republic of	Copper
Egypt	Manganese	Thailand	Manganese
Gabon	Manganese	Turkey*	Copper, Manganese, Nickel
Georgia	Copper, Manganese	Ukraine	Manganese
Ghana	Manganese	Uzbekistan*	Copper
Guatemala	Nickel	Venezuela*	Nickel
India	Copper, Manganese	Viet Nam	Copper
Indonesia	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel	Zambia	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel, Manganese
Iran*	Copper, Manganese	Zimbabwe	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel
Kazakhstan*	Copper, Manganese		

²⁰ Source: United States Geological Survey (USGS); British Geological Survey, World Mineral Report 2019-2023.

List 13

THE LEAST DEVELOPED STATES²¹

The Least Developed Countries	
Angola	Mauritania
Bangladesh	Mozambique
Benin	Myanmar
Burkina Faso	Nepal
Chad	Niger
Comoros	Rwanda
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Sao Tome and Principe
Djibouti	Senegal
Gambia	Sierra Leone
Guinea	Solomon Islands
Guinea-Bissau	Somalia
Haiti	Sudan
Kiribati	Timor-Leste
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Togo
Lesotho	Tuvalu
Liberia	Uganda
Madagascar	United Republic of Tanzania
Malawi	Yemen
Mali	Zambia

²¹ Source: <https://unctad.org/topic/least-developed-countries/list>. The list is limited to States that are members of the International Seabed Authority.

GROUP E
List 14
REGIONAL GROUPS²²

GROUP E MEMBERS OF THE REGIONAL GROUPS					
AFRICAN GROUP (48 MEMBERS)					
1	Algeria	17	Gabon	33	Niger
2	Angola	18	Gambia	34	Nigeria
3	Benin	19	Ghana	35	Rwanda
4	Botswana	20	Guinea	36	Sao Tome and Principe
5	Burkina Faso	21	Guinea-Bissau	37	Senegal
6	Cabo Verde	22	Kenya	38	Seychelles
7	Cameroon	23	Lesotho	39	Sierra Leone
8	Chad	24	Liberia	40	Somalia
9	Comoros	25	Madagascar	41	South Africa
10	Congo	26	Malawi	42	Sudan
11	Côte d'Ivoire	27	Mali	43	Togo
12	Congo, DR	28	Mauritania	44	Tunisia
13	Djibouti	29	Mauritius	45	Uganda
14	Egypt	30	Morocco	46	United Republic of Tanzania
15	Equatorial Guinea	31	Mozambique	47	Zambia
16	Eswatini	32	Namibia	48	Zimbabwe
ASIA-PACIFIC GROUP (47 MEMBERS)					
1	Bahrain	17	Lebanon	33	Qatar
2	Bangladesh	18	Malaysia	34	Republic of Korea
3	Brunei Darussalam	19	Maldives	35	Samoa
4	Cambodia	20	Marshall Islands	36	Saudi Arabia
5	China	21	Micronesia (Federated States of)	37	Singapore
6	Cook Islands	22	Mongolia	38	Solomon Islands
7	Cyprus	23	Myanmar	39	Sri Lanka
8	Fiji	24	Nauru	40	State of Palestine
9	India	25	Nepal	41	Thailand
10	Indonesia	26	Niue	42	Timor-Leste
11	Iraq	27	Oman	43	Tonga
12	Japan	28	Pakistan	44	Tuvalu
13	Jordan	29	Palau	45	Vanuatu
14	Kiribati	30	Papua New Guinea	46	Vietnam
15	Kuwait	31	Philippines	47	Yemen
16	Kyrgyzstan	32	Lao People's Democratic Republic		

²² The list is compiled on the basis of the unofficial list used for the United Nations General Assembly election and is limited to the member States of the International Seabed Authority (171 as of June 2026). The European Union, which is a member, is not counted for this purpose.

EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP (23 MEMBERS)					
1	Albania	9	Estonia	17	Republic of Moldova
2	Armenia	10	Georgia	18	Romania
3	Azerbaijan	11	Hungary	19	Russian Federation
4	Belarus	12	Latvia	20	Serbia
5	Bosnia and Herzegovina	13	Lithuania	21	Slovakia
6	Bulgaria	14	Montenegro	22	Slovenia
7	Croatia	15	North Macedonia	23	Ukraine
8	Czechia	16	Poland		
LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STATES GROUP (29 MEMBERS)					
1	Antigua and Barbuda	11	Dominica	21	Nicaragua
2	Argentina	12	Dominican Republic	22	Panama
3	Bahamas	13	Ecuador	23	Paraguay
4	Barbados	14	Grenada	24	Saint Kitts and Nevis
5	Belize	15	Guatemala	25	Saint Lucia
6	Bolivia	16	Guyana	26	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
7	Brazil	17	Haiti	27	Suriname
8	Chile	18	Honduras	28	Trinidad and Tobago
9	Costa Rica	19	Jamaica	29	Uruguay
10	Cuba	20	Mexico		
WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER STATES GROUP (24 MEMBERS)					
1	Australia	9	Greece	17	New Zealand
2	Austria	10	Iceland	18	Norway
3	Belgium	11	Ireland	19	Portugal
4	Canada	12	Italy	20	San Marino
5	Denmark	13	Luxembourg	21	Spain
6	Finland	14	Malta	22	Sweden
7	France	15	Monaco	23	Switzerland
8	Germany	16	Netherlands	24	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland