Council

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English only

Thirty-first session
Council session, part II
Kingston, 13-24 July 2026
Agenda item 16
Report of the Finance Committee

Draft decision of the Council of the International Seabed Authority relating to financial and budgetary matters

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Taking into account the recommendations of the Finance Committee of the International Seabed Authority,[1]

Recommends that the Assembly adopt the following draft decision:

The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,

1. *Approves* the proposed budget of the Secretariat for the financial period 2027–2028 in the amount of $29,907,000 as proposed by the Secretary-General and revised by the Finance Committee (see ISBA/31/A/4/Add.1 -ISBA/31/C/22/Add.1);

2. *Approves* the proposed budget of the Enterprise for the financial period 2027–2028 in the amount of $794,500 as proposed by the Secretary-General and revised by the Finance Committee (see ISBA/31/A/4/Add.1 -ISBA/31/C/22/Add.1);

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish the scale of assessments for 2027 and 2028 on the basis of the scale used for the regular budget of the United Nations for the period 2025–2027, adjusted for differences in membership between the Authority and the United Nations, taking into account a maximum assessment rate of 22 per cent and a minimum rate of 0.01 per cent;

4. *Adopts* the process and criteria for the implementation of article 184 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for consideration of the Assembly as reflected in Annex I of the report of the Finance Committee;

[1] See ISBA/31/A/10-ISBA/31/C/28

5. *Requests* that the Committee continues its work on the equitable distribution mechanism and provides guidance, in this regard, on the basis of the draft financial regulation of the twenty-ninth session (ISBA/29/FC/2);

6. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General for 2027-2028 to transfer between sections, subsections and programmes up to 15 per cent of the amount of each section and subsection of the programme;

7. *Considers* the issue of financial contributions by the Observers;

8. *Takes account* in their deliberations of the indicative timeline and cost for the operationalization of the Economic Planning Commission in Annex II of the report of the Finance Committee and adopt the recommendations set out in paragraph 6 of that Annex;

9. *Encourages* states, civil society organizations and other stakeholders to consider providing funding to support the costs of the reporting referred to in paragraph 51;

10. *Decides* that, in respect of Kyrgyzstan and Cambodia, which became members of the Authority in 2025 and 2026 respectively, the rate of assessment and the amounts of contribution to the General Administrative Fund and the Working Capital Fund shall be as reflected in paragraph 48 of the report of the Finance Committee;

11. *Appeals* to members of the Authority, including those members with contributions in arrears for the period 1998–2025, to pay outstanding contributions to the budget of the Authority as soon as possible, and requests the Secretary-General to continue efforts to recover those arrears, including through bilateral engagement and coordination with regional group coordinators;

12. *Expresses* appreciation to the donors that have made contributions to the voluntary trust funds of the Authority, and encourages members, observers, contractors and other stakeholders to contribute financially to the voluntary trust funds;

13. *Requests* that the Secretariat submit to the Finance Committee and the Assembly four weeks before every meeting an up-to-date staffing table which indicates for every post the office, functional title, classification, position code, and incumbency as per the date of the table, and all temporary and preliminary appointments and recruitments, noting that the table should separately list any personnel temporarily seconded to ISA from other organizations or institutions;

14. *Reiterates* the request that no reclassification decision be implemented without prior approval of the Assembly on the recommendation of the Committee and note, for the avoidance of doubt, that this applies to all post actions, including establishment, reassignment, reclassification, redeployment, abolishment or conversion, whether on a permanent or temporary basis;

15. *Takes note* of the indicative costs of a third part of a session for the Council during the 2027-2028 budget cycle presented in Annex III of the report of the Finance Committee, noting that a supplementary budget may be required.