



Assembly

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Kingston, 27-31 July 2026

Agenda item 19

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

Decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority regarding to the election to fill the vacancies on the Council of the Authority in accordance with article 161, paragraph 3, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,

Recalling that, in accordance with article 161, paragraph 3, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

“Elections shall take place at regular sessions of the Assembly. Each member of the Council shall be elected for four years”,

Elects the following to fill the vacancies in the Council of the International Seabed Authority for a four-year period as from 1 January 2027 to 31 December 2030, subject to the understandings reached in the regional and interest groups:¹

Group A

Italy²³

Russian Federation

¹ The agreed allocation of seats on the Council is 10 seats to the Group of African States, 9 seats to the Group of Asia-Pacific States, 8 seats to the Group of Western European and Other States, 7 seats to the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States and 3 seats to the Group of Eastern European States. Since the total number of seats allocated according to that formula is 37, it is understood that, in accordance with the understanding reached in 1996 (ISBA/A/L.8 and ISBA/A/L.8/Corr.1), each regional group other than the Group of Eastern European States will relinquish a seat in rotation. The regional group that relinquishes a seat will have the right to designate a member of that group to participate in the deliberations of the Council without the right to vote during the period the regional group relinquishes the seat.

² Italy would relinquish its seat in group A in favour of the United States of America if the United States became a member of the Authority; this does not prejudice the position of any country with respect to any intervening election to the Council.

³ Italy is re-elected for a for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Norway for the year 2027.

Group B

France⁴
Germany⁵
Republic of Korea

Group C

Australia
Chile

Group D

Jamaica
Naoero⁶
Zimbabwe

Group E

Cameroon⁷
Côte d'Ivoire⁸
Ghana⁹
Indonesia¹⁰
Kenya¹¹
Mexico
Singapore
Tonga¹²

*234th meeting
31 July 2026*

⁴ France is re-elected for a for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to the Netherlands for the year 2028.

⁵ Germany is re-elected for a for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to the Netherlands for the year 2029.

⁶ Naoero is re-elected for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Fiji for the years 2029 and 2030.

⁷ Cameroon is re-elected for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Nigeria for the years 2028 to 2030.

⁸ Côte d'Ivoire is elected for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Cameroon for the years 2029 and 2030.

⁹ Ghana is re-elected for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Côte d'Ivoire for the year 2029.

¹⁰ Indonesia is re-elected for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Pakistan for the year 2028.

¹¹ Kenya is elected for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Sierra Leone for the year 2030.

¹² Tonga is re-elected for a four-year term (2027-2030) on the understanding that it will relinquish its seat to Kiribati for the years 2029 and 2030.