



INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

Note No. ISA/OLA/2018/101

The Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority presents his compliments to the members of the Authority and the observers referred to in paragraph 1 of rule 82 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly and has the honour to recall the decision of the Assembly of the Authority at its 170th meeting on 18 August 2017 (ISBA/23/A/13) to request the Secretary-General, in view of the importance of a long-term plan defining the strategic direction and aims of the Authority, to submit a draft strategic plan to the Assembly for consideration at its twenty-fourth session, in 2018, and to inform member States regularly on progress with respect to this plan.

The Secretary-General further has the honour to inform members and observers that the first draft of a “*Strategic Plan for the International Seabed Authority for the Five-Year Period 2019-2023*”, circulated in the two working languages of the Authority, on 26 February 2018 (ISA/OLA/2018/081) is now available for written comments by the members of the Authority and all other stakeholders. To further facilitate such comments, but without wishing to limit the scope of such comments, the Secretary-General has the honour to draw the attention of members and observers to a list of general and specific questions that has been prepared as a guide and which is attached to this Note Verbale and can be accessed on the Authority’s website [<https://www.isa.org.jm/files/documents/EN/SPlan/Questions.pdf>].

Members of the Authority are kindly requested to note that the deadline for submissions is 13 April 2018. Responses should be sent to: strategicplan@isa.org.jm.

The Secretary-General avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the members of the Authority and the observers referred to in paragraph 1 of rule 82 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly the assurances of his highest consideration.

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Consultation on the draft Strategic Plan for the International Seabed Authority for the five-year period 2019-2023.

General questions

1. Does the Draft Strategic Plan duly encapsulate the mandate and responsibilities set out for the Authority by the Convention and the 1994 Agreement?
2. Does the structure of the Draft Strategic Plan flow logically?
3. Are the different components ("*Mission Statement*", "*Context & Challenges*", "*Strategic Directions*" and "*Results and Priority Outputs*") of the Draft Strategic Plan presented in manner that is sufficiently clear, concise and precise?

Specific questions

4. Does the "*Mission Statement*" accurately reflect the mandate of the Authority?
5. Does the "*Context and Challenges*" section provide a clear overview of the operational context in which the Authority functions, as well as the constraints it contends with?
6. Are the "*Strategic Directions*" formulated in a clear and precise manner?
7. Are the "*Results and Priority Outputs*" appropriate and is there a clear link between the "*Strategic Directions*" and the "*Results and Priority Outputs*"?
8. Are there any specific observations or comments that Member States and other stakeholders wish to make in connection with any other aspect of the Draft Strategic Plan?