

United Nations Nations Unies

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REFERENCE: MSP.N.2023.LOS (Notification – Meeting of States Parties)

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea Montego Bay, 10 December 1982

Convening of the thirty-third Meeting of States Parties

The Secretary-General of the United Nations communicates the following pursuant to rule 5 (Notification) of the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of States Parties (SPLOS/2/Rev.5):

The thirty-third Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea will be held in New York, from 12 to 16 June 2023, in conformity with paragraph 61 of General Assembly resolution [77/248](#) of 30 December 2022. The provisional agenda of the Meeting is contained in document [SPLOS/33/L.1](#) available through the Official Document System of the United Nations (documents.un.org).

Parties

The attention of the States Parties to the Convention is drawn to rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure (Submission of credentials). In this regard, the Secretary-General wishes to recall that original credentials of representatives duly signed by the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs or any person authorized by either of them should be transmitted to the Secretariat (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, room DC2 0450, United Nations, New York, NY 10017). A scanned copy of the credentials, as well as other communications containing the names of representatives to the Meeting (such as letters and notes verbales from the permanent mission), should be submitted through the online e-Credentials module, which can be accessed through the e-delegate portal starting mid-April 2023 (edelegate.un.int).

For the timely conduct of the election of seven members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (the Tribunal), it would be appreciated if the credentials of States Parties were transmitted to the Secretariat as soon as possible and no later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the Meeting on 12 June 2023. It is recalled that the Meeting of States Parties will consider the report of the Credentials Committee before the election. Accordingly, ballot papers will be distributed only to those States Parties whose credentials have been approved by the Meeting.

Attention is drawn to the understanding reached by the twenty-third Meeting of States Parties (see SPLOS/263, paragraph 101), according to which, in keeping with rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, Meetings of States Parties can be adjourned

and resumed as required and would terminate when the next Meeting of States Parties is convened. Therefore, the credentials of representatives for the thirty-third Meeting would cover the period from 12 June 2023 until the convening of the thirty-fourth Meeting of States Parties.

Observers

Pursuant to rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure (Accreditation of observers), observers referred to in rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure (Observers) and in the decision adopted by the twenty-ninth Meeting of States Parties (SPLOS/29/9 para. 120) are invited to transmit to the Secretariat (email: doalos@un.org, with original hard copy to follow by mail) the names of the representatives who will form part of their delegation, as soon as possible and preferably no later than 15 June 2023.

Documents

The documents referred to in the provisional agenda will be available at www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/thirtythirdmeetingstatesparties.htm as soon as they are released, as well as through the Official Document System of the United Nations at documents.un.org.

Concerning the election of seven members of the Tribunal, an advance version of the list of candidates, and their curricula vitae, have been made available by the Office of the Registrar, at: www.itlos.org/en/main/the-tribunal/the-tribunal/election-of-members-of-the-tribunal. Advance versions of documents concerning the consideration of administrative and budgetary matters of the Tribunal will become available in due course, at: www.itlos.org/en/main/the-tribunal/states-parties.

All documents concerning past Meetings can be found at: www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/SPLOS_documents.htm.

