

United Nations Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.1234 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4879

REFERENCE: MSP-31RES.N.2021.LOS.Add.1 (Notification – Meeting of States Parties)

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

Convening of the resumed thirty-first Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Pursuant to rule 5 (*Notification*) of the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of States Parties ([SPLOS/2/Rev.5](#)), and as an addendum to notification MSP-31RES.N.2021.LOS of 23 September 2021, the Secretary-General of the United Nations communicates the following:

The resumed thirty-first Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea will be held in New York on 8 December 2021 in the General Assembly Hall, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., for the purpose of filling one seat in the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf that is allocated to the members of the Commission from Latin American and Caribbean States.

The list of candidates nominated for election to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf is contained in the note by the Secretary-General (SPLOS/31/12).

Further to the information regarding election of one member of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf contained in the note by the Secretary-General (SPLOS/31/11), additional details concerning the conduct of the election are set out below.

Article 2, paragraph 3, of annex II to of the Convention provides that “[e]lections of the members of the Commission shall be held at a meeting of States Parties convened by the Secretary-General at United Nations Headquarters. At that meeting, for which two thirds of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Commission shall be those nominees who obtain a two-thirds majority of the votes of the representatives of States Parties present and voting. Not less than three members shall be elected from each geographical region.”

Given the requirement concerning the quorum, participation of all States Parties is of importance.

In light of the continuing situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic, State Parties are hereby informed of the limitation of delegation size to 1+3 in the General Assembly Hall.

Delegates should start arriving to the General Assembly Hall at least 30 minutes before the start time of the meeting.

Upon arrival to the General Assembly Hall, delegates will proceed through the East doors of the General Assembly Hall to the East Documents Counter located toward the back of the Hall to receive the ballot papers from the Secretariat staff.

In keeping with the practice of the Meeting of States Parties, ballot papers will be distributed only to States Parties that have transmitted formal credentials or provisional information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the thirty-first Meeting.

Since the Meeting of States Parties is electing one member from the Latin American and Caribbean States, there will be a ballot paper only for this regional group, indicating that the election concerns only one seat allocated to this regional group.

Representatives may vote only for one candidate whose name appears on the ballot paper. In order to cast a vote for a candidate, representatives should write an "X" in the box to the left of the name of the candidate. Blank ballot papers will be considered abstentions.

After the President has announced that voting has begun, no representative may interrupt the voting, except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting.

The President will invite the tellers to accompany the conference officers as they collect the ballot papers from desk to desk. All representatives should remain in their seats and wait for their turn to cast the ballots in the box. Once the collection is complete, the President of the Meeting will provide an opportunity to any delegation of a State Party that has not yet cast their ballot to do so by approaching the podium and casting its ballot in the box.

Once the ballots have been collected, the conference officers, accompanied by the tellers, will proceed to a designated room for the counting of the votes. After the votes have been counted, the President will announce the result.

The President will provide further information on the procedure for the conduct of election before the beginning of the voting process.

Credentials

The attention of the States Parties to the Convention is drawn to rule 13 of the Rules of Procedure (*Submission of credentials*). It is further recalled, in this regard, that the thirty-first Meeting of States Parties approved the report of the Credentials Committee and accepted the credentials and information concerning the appointment of representatives received after the Credentials Committee held its second meeting on 23 June 2021, on the understanding that the credentials of representatives to the thirty-first Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea would continue to be valid, in accordance with rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure, until the convening of the thirty-second Meeting, and on the understanding that, if there was to be a resumed thirty-first Meeting, the Credentials Committee would be able to resume its consideration of the credentials of representatives of States Parties (see [SPLOS/31/7](#) and [SPLOS/31/9](#), para. 12).

In this connection, States Parties that have not submitted credentials or provisional information concerning the appointment of representatives to the thirty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, or that may need to update credentials or provisional information, are

kindly urged to transmit any of the following by email to the Secretariat at doalos@un.org, in pdf or an image format, as soon as possible and no later than 5:00 p.m. on 7 December 2021:

- a scanned copy of the formal credentials signed by the Head of State or Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs or any person authorized by either of them; or
- a scanned copy of a signed communication from the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York containing provisional information concerning the appointment of representatives to the thirty-first Meeting.

A list of delegates conveyed in the body of an email message will not be considered as being in order.

In the absence of an acknowledgment of receipt, the State Party concerned should assume that its communication concerning the credentials has not been received by the Secretariat.

The original hard copy of the credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or any person authorized by either of them should be brought to the General Assembly Hall on the date of the resumed Meeting and submitted to the Secretariat.

Documents

All documents concerning the current and past Meetings are available through the Official Document System of the United Nations (<https://documents.un.org>) as well as at www.un.org/Depts/los/meeting_states_parties/meeting_states_parties.htm.

 
29 November 2021