Case Nos. 2025-2008 & 2025-2024

Giovanni Ardito and David Pusztai (Appellants)

 \mathbf{v} .

Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority

(Respondent)

Order No. 611 (2025)

- 1. On 7 January 2025, Mr. Giovanni Ardito and Mr. David Pusztai, former staff members of the International Seabed Authority (ISA), filed a joint application with two other former staff members with the ISA Joint Appeals Board (JAB) requesting a suspension of action with respect to the Secretary-General's decision to terminate their appointments.
- 2. On 24 February 2025, the JAB denied their suspension of action application in Decision ISBA/JAB/JOINT APPELLANTS/2025 (impugned Decision).¹
- 3. On 25 March 2025, Mr. Ardito filed an appeal of the impugned Decision with the United Nations Appeal Tribunal (Appeals Tribunal). The appeal was registered as Case No. 2025-2008. The Secretary-General filed her answer on 26 May 2025.
- 4. On 25 May 2025,² Mr. Pusztai also filed an appeal of the impugned Decision. The appeal was registered as Case No. 2025-2024. The Secretary-General filed her answer on 8 August 2025.
- 5. Given that Mr. Ardito and Mr. Pusztai have filed appeals of the same impugned Decision, and their actions arise from the same facts wherein the newly-appointed

¹ Khalilah Hackman, Jonathan Hall, Giovanni Ardito, David Pusztai v. Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority.

² The appeal was refiled on 6 June 2025, on instruction from UNAT Registry, to conform with filing requirements.

Secretary-General terminated their appointments on the same day, it would be efficient to consider their appeals together.

- 6. Pursuant to Article 18*bis*(1) of the Appeals Tribunal Rules of Procedure, "[t]he President [of the Appeals Tribunal] may, at any time, either on a motion of a party or on his or her own volition, issue any order which appears to be appropriate for the fair and expeditious management of the case and to do justice to the parties".
- 7. **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the appeals filed by Mr. Ardito in Case No. 2025-2008 and by Mr. Pusztai in Case No. 2025-2024 are consolidated for hearing and judgment by the Appeals Tribunal.

Original and Authoritative Version: English

Dated this 21st day of August 2025 in Washington D.C., United States.

(Signed) Judge Nassib G. Ziadé, President

Entered in the Register on this 21st day of August 2025 in New York, United States.

(Signed) Juliet E. Johnson, Registrar