



# Assembly

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## **Draft decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority relating to amendments to regulation 21 of the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area**

*The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority,*

*Having considered* the amendments to regulation 21 of the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area,<sup>1</sup> as provisionally adopted by the Council at its 198th meeting on 18 July 2014,<sup>2</sup>

*Approves* the amendments to regulation 21 as contained in the annex to the present decision.

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<sup>1</sup> ISBA/19/C/17, annex.

<sup>2</sup> ISBA/20/C/23.



## **Annex**

Regulation 21 of the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area<sup>1</sup> is amended by the insertion of the following new paragraph immediately following paragraph 6:

7. The Legal and Technical Commission may recommend approval of a plan of work if it determines that such approval would not permit a State Party or entities sponsored by it to monopolize the conduct of activities in the Area with regard to polymetallic nodules or to preclude other States parties from activities in the Area with regard to polymetallic nodules.

Paragraphs 7 to 11 of regulation 21 are to be renumbered accordingly.

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