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PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE
INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY
AND FOR THE INTERNATIONAL
TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

LETTER DATED 13 FEBRUARY 1995 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
DELEGATION OF FRANCE ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARIAT OF
THE UNITED NATIONS

Please find enclosed a file on the subject of Mr. Kaiser G. de Souza, a Brazilian national, who successfully completed between 3 October 1993 and 30 September 1994 a training programme organized by France and its pioneer investor, IFREMER-AFERNOD, provided for under the understanding on the fulfilment of obligations described in document LOS/PCN/L.87, annex, of 30 August 1990 and adopted on 31 August 1990 by the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority.

The file consists of the following documents: (a) a report in French, written by Mr. de Souza; (b) a summary of that report, in French and English; and (c) a training certificate issued by the French authorities.

I should be grateful if you would:

(a) Inform the members of the Preparatory Commission of the Authority, and the members of the Training Panel, that this report is available for consultation, given its exceptional importance;

(b) Distribute the summary of the report to the Training Panel as a working document, at least in French and English;

(c) Ensure appropriate distribution, as a working document, of the training certificate issued by the French authorities, as was done in the case of Mr. Braham, a Tunisian national who was trained in France.

It is, of course, for the secretariat of the Preparatory Commission and the Authority to issue its own certificate to Mr. de Souza in respect of his training course.

(Signed) Georges DUQUIN
Head of the French delegation

Annex

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned, Georges Duquin, Deputy Director for the Law of the Sea, Fisheries and Antarctica in the Office of Legal Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic and Head of the French delegation to the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority and for the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, and to the International Seabed Authority, hereby certifies that Mr. Kaiser G. de Souza, of Brazilian nationality, born on 25 July 1958 at Recife (Brazil), successfully completed between 3 October 1993 and 30 September 1994 the training programme organized by France, the certifying State, and the pioneer investor IFREMER-AFERNOD (Institut français de l'exploitation de la mer-Association française d'études et de recherche des nœuds), provided for under the understanding on the fulfilment of obligations described in document LOS/PCN/L.87, annex, dated 30 August 1990 and adopted on 31 August 1990 by the Preparatory Commission for the International Seabed Authority. This certification also applies to the statements made below.

After being selected by the Officers of the Preparatory Commission on the recommendation of the Training Panel, Mr. de Souza attended a comprehensive training course in France on mining geology and data processing. The course consisted of two parts, theoretical study and practical application.

The theoretical course took place from 1 October 1993 to 31 March 1994, at the following establishments:

(a) Centre for Higher Education in the Exploration and Exploitation of Mineral Resources (CESEV);

(b) Ecole nationale supérieure de géologie (ESNG), in Nancy; Mr. de Souza obtained the Diploma of Higher Specialized Studies (DESS) in "Exploration and Mining Geology", with an average mark of 16/20, placing him in the first third of his class.

Mr. de Souza received instruction in the following subjects:

(a) Mining economics (economics of raw materials, project economics, economics of technology);

(b) Metallogeny;

(c) Ore processing;

(d) Data processing and introduction to geostatistics.

Visits to industrial and mining facilities were organized for Mr. de Souza during this period of study.

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The practical part of the training course, in the field of marine geoscience, took place from 1 April to 30 September 1994 at the Institut français de l'exploitation de la mer (IFREMER) in Brest.

The purpose of this course was practical training in mining geology and the application of computer technology to information regarding deep seabed polymetallic nodule deposits.

In this connection, Mr. de Souza took part in the "Zoneco" campaign aboard the vessel Atalante from 2 to 22 August 1994, the purpose of which was the morphobathymetric mapping of part of the exclusive economic zone of New Caledonia.

Mr. de Souza was thus able to study means of prospecting for and exploiting polymetallic nodule deposits, the geological and mining characteristics of these deposits, and the various data-processing resources used in studying them. He put this into practice by designing and creating displays showing the methods and techniques used by IFREMER-AFERNOD.

As a practical exercise, Mr. de Souza drafted a project for the prospecting and evaluation of the polymetallic nodules on the sites reserved for the International Seabed Authority.

Technical experts, as well as the French authorities, have judged Mr. de Souza's report to be an exceptionally valuable contribution to knowledge and to the evaluation of current problems in the area of polymetallic nodules.

During this course, Mr. de Souza showed remarkable aptitude for acquiring knowledge. He was able to apply his high-level professional skills to making a critical appraisal of the methods and data to which he was introduced.

On completion of his training, Mr. de Souza was felt to have demonstrated exceptional professional and human qualities and to have fully attained the objectives of the training designed to give the personnel of the future Authority the best possible qualifications.

(Signed) Georges DUQUIN
