



Council

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Draft decision of the Council relating to an application for the approval of a plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts by Companhia de Pesquisa de Recursos Minerais

The Council of the International Seabed Authority,

Acting on the recommendation of the Legal and Technical Commission,

Noting that, on 31 December 2013, an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts was submitted to the Secretary-General of the Authority in accordance with the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Cobalt-rich Ferromanganese Crusts in the Area¹ by Companhia de Pesquisa de Recursos Minerais, sponsored by Brazil,

Recalling that, in accordance with paragraph 6 (a) of section 1 of the annex to the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982,² the processing of an application for approval of a plan of work for exploration shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Convention, including annex III thereto, and the Agreement,

Recalling also that, pursuant to article 153, paragraph 3, of the Convention³ and paragraph 6 (b) of section 1 of the annex to the Agreement, the plan of work for exploration shall be in the form of a contract concluded between the Authority and the applicant,

Taking note of the advisory opinion of the Seabed Disputes Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea of 1 February 2011,

1. *Takes note of the report and recommendations of the Legal and Technical Commission relating to an application for the approval of a plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts submitted by Companhia de Pesquisa*

¹ ISBA/18/A/11.

² General Assembly resolution 48/263, annex.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.



de Recursos Minerais transmitted to the Council,⁴ in particular, paragraphs 26 to 29 thereof;

2. *Approves* the plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts submitted by Companhia de Pesquisa de Recursos Minerais;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Authority to issue the plan of work for exploration for cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts in the form of a contract between the Authority and Companhia de Pesquisa de Recursos Minerais in accordance with the Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Cobalt-rich Ferromanganese Crusts in the Area.¹

⁴ ISBA/20/C/17.