

**Twenty-five years  
of the United Nations Convention  
on the Law of the Sea  
of 10 December 1982**

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**Institutional framework -  
Meeting of States Parties**

**Introduction**

- ❖ UNCLOS provides, in article 319, paragraph 2 (e), that the Secretary-General "shall convene necessary meetings of States Parties in accordance with this Convention".

## **First Meeting of States Parties**

- ❖ The first Meeting of States Parties (SPLOS) was convened in New York on 21 and 22 November 1994, immediately following the entry into force, on 16 November 1994, of the Convention.

## **Meetings of States Parties**

- ❖ As at 2007 , there have been 17 Meetings of the States Parties to the Convention. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, provides secretariat services to the Meetings.

## **Meeting of States Parties - agenda**

- ❖ Matters related to ITLOS:
  - ❖ Reports of ITLOS to the Meeting of States Parties;
  - ❖ Election of members of ITLOS;
  - ❖ Budgetary matters of ITLOS (draft budget, scale of assessments, Performance Reports, Reports of the External Auditors, Pension Fund, etc.)
  - ❖ Consideration of the Financial Regulations of ITLOS.

## **Meeting of States Parties – agenda (cont.)**

- ❖ Matters related to CLCS
  - ❖ Election of 21 members of CLCS;
  - ❖ Information reported by the Chairman of the Commission;
  - ❖ Issues with respect to article 4 of annex II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;
  - ❖ Other issues as submitted by CLCS, e.g., workload of the Commission;

## **Meeting of States Parties – agenda (cont.)**

- ❖ Information on the activities of the International Seabed Authority;
- ❖ Report of the Secretary-General under article 319 for the information of States parties on issues of a general nature, relevant to States parties, that have arisen with respect to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

## **Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties**

- ❖ 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting held in New York from 14 to 22 June 2007;
- ❖ Ambassador Rosemary Banks (New Zealand) was elected by acclamation President;
- ❖ 152 States parties to UNCLOS and the European Community participated.

## Election of 21 members of the Commission

❖ On 14 and 15 June 2007, in seventh rounds of balloting, the Meeting elected 21 members of the Commission:

❖ Alexandre Tagore Medeiros de Albuquerque (Brazil), Osvaldo Pedro Astiz (Argentina), Lawrence Folajimi Awosika (Nigeria), Harald Brekke (Norway), Galo Carrera Hurtado (Mexico), Francis L. Charles (Trinidad and Tobago), Peter F. Croker (Ireland), Indurlall Fagoonee (Mauritius), Mihai Silviu German (Romania), Abu Bakar Jaafar (Malaysia), George Jaoshvili (Georgia), Emmanuel Kalngui (Cameroon), Yuri Borisovitch Kazmin (Russian Federation), Wenzheng Lu (China), Isaac Owusu Oduro (Ghana), Yong-ahn Park (Republic of Korea), Fernando Manuel Maia Pimentel (Portugal), Sivaramakrishnan Rajan (India), Michael Anselme Marc Rosette (Seychelles), Philip Alexander Symonds (Australia) and Kensaku Tamaki (Japan).

## Seventeenth Meeting of States Parties - outcome

- ❖ **SPLOS/161** - Decision on the surrender of savings by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;
- ❖ **SPLOS/162** - Decision on issues related to the workload of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf;
- ❖ **SPLOS/163** - Decision on the allocation of seats on the Commission and the Tribunal;
- ❖ **SPLOS/164 & SPLOS/164/Corr.1** - Report of the seventeenth Meeting of States Parties.

## **Report of the Secretary-General under article 319 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea**

- ❖ Divergent views continued to be expressed with regard to the mandate of the Meeting of States Parties to discuss matters of a substantive nature relating to the implementation of the Convention.

## **Eighteenth Meeting of States Parties (June - July 2008)**

- ❖ Report of ITLOS 2007;
- ❖ Information reported by the SG of ISA;
- ❖ CLCS - (a) Information reported by the Chairman; (b) Workload of the Commission;
- ❖ Budgetary matters of ITLOS – Budget for 2009-2010; Report of the external auditor for 2006-2007; Report on budgetary matters for 2007-2008;
- ❖ Election of seven members of ITLOS;
- ❖ The ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of Annex II to the Convention, as well as paragraph (a) of the decision contained in SPLOS/72;
- ❖ Report of the Secretary-General under article 319;
- ❖ The allocation of seats on the Commission and the Tribunal.

Thank you.