



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

23 March 2016

Excellency,

I wish to refer to General Assembly resolution 69/292 of 19 June 2015, "Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction".

You will recall that, pursuant to paragraph 1(f) of resolution 69/292, by letter dated 22 June 2015, my predecessor H.E. Mr. Sam K. Kutesa invited regional groups to nominate candidates to the Bureau to be elected at the first session of the Preparatory Committee established in that resolution.

I am pleased to inform you that my office has received the following nominations:

**African States**

Mr. Mohammed Atlassi, Minister Plenipotentiary, Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations

Mr. Thembile Elphus Joyini, Counsellor, Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations

**Asia-Pacific States**

Mr. Xinmin Ma, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Treaty and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China

Mr. Kaitaro Nonomura, Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

**Eastern European States**

Mr. Konrad Marciniak, Deputy Director of the Legal and Treaty Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland

Mr. Maxim V. Musikhin, Senior Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations

To All Permanent Representatives  
and Permanent Observers  
to the United Nations

**Latin American and Caribbean States**

Mr. Javier Gorostegui, Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations

Ms Gina Guillen Grillo, Minister Counsellor, Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations

**Western European and Other States**

Mr. Giles Norman, Legal Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations

Mr. Antoine Misonne, Legal Advisor, Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations

On the basis of paragraphs 1(e) and (f) of resolution 69/292, the election of the bureau members will take place at the first session to cover the full duration of the Preparatory Committee (Prep Com).

In order to effectuate the arrangements in membership reached by some regional groups as communicated to my Office, and in accordance with the mandate in the aforementioned resolution, the member(s) elected at the first session of the Preparatory Committee for a particular regional group with such an agreement, would need to resign at the appropriate time as determined by the arrangement reached by the regional group. Only then would the other nominee(s) from that group be able to stand for election at the following session of the Preparatory Committee.

In that regard, we wish to bring to your attention that any intersessional change in membership would not be formally effectuated until the next session of the Preparatory Committee at which a new election for the particular member(s) would need to take place.

I trust that you will accord your full cooperation and support to the Chair of the Preparatory Committee, H.E. Ambassador Eden Charles, as well as to the members of the bureau in carrying out their important responsibility.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Mogens Lykketoft