

# **Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea**

1973-1982

Concluded at Montego Bay, Jamaica on 10 December 1982

Document:-

**A/CONF.62/C.1/SR.29**

## **29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the First Committee**

Extract from the *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Volume VI (Summary Records, Plenary, General Committee, First, Second and Third Committees, as well as Documents of the Conference, Fifth Session)*

8. Mr. ZULETA (Special Representative of the Secretary-General) observed that, as he had said earlier, mention would have to be made of some aspects concerning the acquisition of technology; reference could also be made to certain contractual arrangements which would enable the Enterprise to start operating. While it was true that the acquisition of technology was dealt with in the passages of the revised single negotiating text dealing with the relations between contractors and the Authority, the request for a study did not appear to relate to that subject, and he had therefore not referred to it.

*Request for a study by the Secretariat on the costs of the International Sea-bed Authority*

9. Mr. MARTIN (Federal Republic of Germany) said that the question of financing the Enterprise was related to that of financing the Authority. The manner in which the Authority was to be financed would, of course, be discussed when the Committee dealt with articles 46 to 51 of part I, on finance, and paragraph 9 (d) of annex I. Few data were available, however, on the probable costs of the Authority, and it would be helpful to have a carefully worked out estimate of those costs. His delegation, accordingly, proposed that such a study should be prepared. Naturally, it should be separate from the study on the financing of the Enterprise and should not be given the same priority; indeed, it need not be submitted at the current session.

10. Mr. KASEMSRI (Thailand) supported the proposal and expressed the hope that the Secretariat would include a study based on the two approaches described in the special appendix to part I of the revised single negotiating text and on any other approach which could make the Authority a viable concern.

11. Mr. RATINER (United States of America) said that it

would be useful if the Secretariat could provide alternatives—in other words, quantify the high-, medium- and low-budget options so that, if the study was used later for budget purposes, some efficient and low-cost options would be readily available.

12. Mr. ZULETA (Special Representative of the Secretary-General) said that he anticipated no difficulty in the Secretariat undertaking the study requested by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany, on the understanding that it would be given less priority than the other study. Unless the Committee instructed otherwise, it would be assumed that such a study was to be based on the relevant provisions of the revised single negotiating text. With regard to the representative of Thailand's suggestion, however, he pointed out that when using approaches A and B, outlined in the special appendix, the Secretariat would necessarily make certain assumptions and would almost inevitably end up taking a position for or against a particular approach. That would raise difficulties since he had the impression that the Committee itself had not agreed on certain fundamental aspects of the question.

13. Mr. KASEMSRI (Thailand) thanked the representative of the Secretary-General for his explanation and expressed the hope that there would be another opportunity to submit the request at a later stage when the Committee might be expected to have taken certain fundamental decisions that would facilitate the work of the Secretariat.

14. The CHAIRMAN said that if he heard no objection he would take it that the Committee requested the Secretariat to prepare a study on the estimated costs of the Authority.

*It was so decided.*

*The meeting rose at 4.10 p.m.*

## 29th meeting

**Tuesday, 24 August 1976, at 10.10 a.m.**

*Chairman:* Mr. P. B. ENGO (United Republic of Cameroon).

### **Weekly report by the Co-Chairmen on the activities of the workshop**

1. Mr. SONDAAL (Netherlands), Co-Chairman of the workshop, introduced the report contained in document A/CONF.62/C.1/WR.2 and drew attention to the following amendments to the English text, which he said would be issued later in a corrigendum to that document.

2. Paragraph 2 of the report should be amended to read:

“Workshop paper No. 1 asserts the pre-eminence of the Authority and its full and effective control over activities in the international sea-bed area as a means of ensuring compliance with the provisions of the convention. According to this proposal it will be necessary to make the Enterprise a

concrete and financially viable entity. The proponents of this proposal do not support a parallel system of exploitation as set forth in the revised single negotiating text.”

The words “control by” in the third sentence of the third paragraph should be replaced by the words “supervision of”

3. A further paragraph should be inserted after paragraph 8, reading:

“One delegation supported the principles contained in workshop paper No. 1 and opposed those contained in workshop papers Nos. 2 and 3, including the parallel system of exploitation referred to therein.”

*The meeting rose at 10.25 a.m.*