

Contribution of the International Seabed Authority to the thirteenth meeting of the Informal Consultative Process Meeting on marine renewable energies

1. The thermal and kinetic energy stored in the oceans represents a vast potential for producing renewable energy, particularly in nearshore areas. In recent years, a number of technologies have been developed and extensive industrial and academic research has been

data variables identified as important indicators of metal content and abundance, and outlines

specific datasets that qualify for use in the Geological Model and data information on all known nodule deposits in the CCFZ.

5. The use of renewable energies is also considered in mining operations in the Area. For example, ocean thermal energy, also referred to as Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC), converts solar radiation to electric power through the difference in water temperatures between surface water (warm) and deep water (cold). These two reservoirs provide a heat source and a heat sink, enabling the operation of a heat engine producing electric power. The use of floating or drifting OTEC plants has been suggested as a possibility to generate electric

power for mining operations and the use of wind turbines and wave energy are also considered on future mining platforms by a contractor of the Authority.

6. The recent exploration of the seafloor for massive sulfide deposits in the CCFZ

Exploration and Exploitation of Deep Sea Minerals. The Authority is also committed to making any non-confidential data and information that it has collected available for the study of marine renewables and is keen to play an active role with other international and regional organizations in any developments related to marine renewables that may have implications for the exploration and exploitation of marine mineral resources and the protection of the marine environment in the Area.