

**INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA**

STATEMENT BY

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REGISTRAR

OF THE

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE LAW OF THE SEA

ON

BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MATTERS OF THE TRIBUNAL

TO

THE THIRTY-FOURTH MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

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CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

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Mr President,

I am honoured to have this opportunity to present to the Meeting of States Parties four documents relating to budgetary and financial matters submitted by the Tribunal under agenda item 11. Advance, unedited versions of these documents were posted on the ITLOS website on 17 April 2024.

**I. Draft budget proposals of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea for the budget period 2025-2026 (SPLOS/34/6)**

1. I williona9a1Tf -2g04 Tw L2ccn/Artifa1.67 0 Td (6)Tj 0..cDC -5.o budgetary 10(a)10





revisions in the post adjustment multiplier for Hamburg and the revision of the Judges' remuneration to US\$

## Staff costs

18. With regard to Section 3 “staff costs”, as I mentioned earlier, the number of members of staff in the Registry has remained at 38 since 2015 but, for the reasons already explained, a proposal for a new P-4 French Translator/Reviser has been included. As in previous budgets, the Tribunal’s budgetary estimates relating to established posts are based on standard costs issued by the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Finance of the United Nations. However, the standard costs have increased over the past two years because of the higher post adjustment multiplier for Hamburg and the increased salaries for General Service staff. On that basis, an amount of €6,842,300 is proposed for the budget lines “Established posts” and “Staff assessment” in 2025-2026. This represents an increase of €777,900 compared with the amount approved for 2023-2024.

19. The budget line “Common staff costs” envisages a provision of €2,641,300, which represents an increase of €325,100 compared with the amount approved for 2023-2024. As in the past, estimates have been prepared on the basis of actual requirements. However, there has been an increase in contributions to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund following the revision of the pensionable remuneration for Professional and General Service staff. The slightly higher exchange rate between the euro and the dollar which applies to staff entitlements based on the dollar (such as contributions to the pension fund, the medical insurance plan and after-service health insurance) and the entitlements related to the new P-4 post also add to the increase.

20. On the basis of the performance during the budget period 2021-2022 and during the year 2023, it is proposed that the amounts for the budget lines “General temporary assistance” and “Training” be reduced by €20,000 in total.

21. Taking these increases and decreases into account, the Section “Staff costs” shows an overall increase of €1,098,600 compared with the previous budget.



26. In the 2023-2024 budget, the budget line “Miscellaneous services and charges (incl. bank charges)” included a provision for interest bank charges on cash deposits. Because banks stopped this practice in July 2022, the budget line shows a decrease of €58,000 in comparison with the previous budget.

27. The Meeting of States Parties will appoint the auditor for the financial periods 2025-2028. As I will explain in a moment, the Tribunal has received three quotations in this regard. The budget line “Special services (external audit)



35. I now turn to Part A of the budget, "Recurrent expenditure".

36. After the 2023-2024 budget was approved in June 2022, the post adjustment multiplier for Hamburg was revised by the ICSC on three occasions, as was



“Operating expenditure”; and Section 9, “Purchase of equipment”. These savings

**III. Report of the external auditor for the financial period 2023 (SPLOS/34/4)**

48.

53. The budget proposals include only the lowest of the three offers. The amount that will actually be included in the budget proposal will be adjusted in line with the decision of this Meeting.

54. This concludes my presentation of the documents submitted to the Meeting of States Parties under agenda item 11. I will be happy to answer any questions relating to them. I thank you for your attention.