

The administrative expenses are met from assessed contributions from its members. Membership numbered 167 in Feb. 2016; the budget for the biennium 2015–16 was US\$15,743,143.

The UNCLOS covers almost all ocean space and its uses: navigation and overflight, resource exploration and exploitation, conservation and pollution, fishing and shipping. It entitles coastal states and inhabitable islands to proclaim a 12-mile territorial sea, a contiguous zone, a 200-mile exclusive economic zone and an extended continental shelf (in some cases). Its 320 Articles and nine Annexes constitute a guide for behaviour by states in the world's oceans, defining maritime zones, laying down rules for drawing sea boundaries, assigning legal rights, duties and responsibilities to States, and providing machinery for the settlement of disputes.

Organization. The Assembly, consisting of representatives from all member states, is the supreme organ. The 36-member Council, elected by the Assembly, includes the four largest importers or consumers of seabed minerals, four largest investors in seabed minerals, four major exporters of the same, six developing countries representing special interests and 18 members from all the geographical regions. The Council is the executive organ of the Authority. There are also two subsidiary bodies: the Legal and Technical Commission (currently 24 experts) and the Finance Committee (currently 15 experts). The Secretariat serves all the bodies of the Authority and under the 1994 Agreement is performing functions of the Enterprise (until such time as it starts to operate independently of the Secretariat). The Enterprise is the organ through which the ISA carries out deep seabed activities directly or through joint ventures.

Activities. In July 2000 the ISA adopted the Regulations for Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area. Pursuant thereto, it signed exploration contracts with eight contractors who have submitted plans of work for deep seabed exploration. These are: Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (IFREMER) and Association Française pour l'Etude de la Recherche des Nodules (AFERNOD), France; Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd (DORD), Japan; State Enterprise Yuzhmorgeologiya, Russian Federation; China Ocean Minerals Research and Development Association (COMRA); Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM), a consortium sponsored by Bulgaria, Cuba, Czech Republic, Poland, Russia and Slovakia; the government of the Republic of Korea; the Republic of India; and the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, Germany.

Workshops are held on a range of topics, normally once a year. In the past these have included: environmental management needs for exploration and exploitation of deep seabed minerals; a standardized system of data interpretation; and prospects for international collaboration in marine environmental research.

Headquarters: 14–20 Port Royal St., Kingston, Jamaica.

Website: <http://www.isa.org.jm>

Secretary-General: Nii Allotey Odunton (Ghana).

Publications. *Handbook 2013.—Selected Decisions and Documents from the Authority's Sessions.—various others.*

International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO)

Founded in 1964 as Intelsat, the organization was the world's first commercial communications satellite operator. Today, with capacity on a fleet of geostationary satellites and expanding terrestrial network assets, Intelsat continues to provide

connectivity for telephony, corporate network, broadcast and internet services.

Organization. In 2001 the member states of the organization implemented restructuring by transferring certain assets to Intelsat Ltd, a new commercial company under the supervision of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization, now known as ITSO. In 2009 Intelsat Ltd moved its corporate headquarters to Luxembourg and became Intelsat S.A. ITSO's mission is to ensure that Intelsat provides public telecommunications services, including voice, data and video, on a global and non-discriminatory basis. The governing body of ITSO is the Assembly of Parties, which normally meets every other year. The Executive Organ is headed by the Director-General and is responsible to the Assembly of Parties. The Director-General supervises and monitors Intelsat's provision of public telecommunications services. There were 149 member countries in Feb. 2016.

Headquarters: 4400 Jenifer St., NW, Suite 332, Washington, D.C., 20015, USA.

Website: <http://www.itso.int>

Director-General: José Manuel Toscano (Portugal).

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

Origin. Founded in Nov. 2006, the ITUC was formed through a unification process that included the merger of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the World Confederation of Labour (WCL) with the addition of several national centres that had not been affiliated with either organization. The WCL was established in 1920 as the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, but went briefly out of existence in 1940 owing to the suppression of affiliated unions by the Nazi and Fascist regimes. It reconstituted in 1945 and became the WCL in 1968. The founding congress of the ICFTU took place in London in Dec. 1949 following the withdrawal of some Western trade unions from the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), which was founded in 1945 but had come under Communist control.

In Feb. 2016 the ITUC represented 180m. members of 333 affiliates in 162 countries and territories.

Aims. The ITUC aims to defend and promote the rights of workers, particularly the right to trade union organization and collective bargaining; to combat discrimination at work and in society; to ensure that social concerns are put at the centre of global economic, trade and finance policies; to support young people's rights at work; and to promote the involvement of women in trade unions. Its main campaigns are: Qatar 2022: Re-Run the Vote; World Day for Decent Work; Get Organised!; Count Us In!; Domestic Workers—12+12; and Post-2015 Development Framework.

Organization. The Congress meets every four years to set policies and to elect the General Secretary and the General Council, composed of 70 members, which is the main decision-making body between congresses. The President and Deputy Presidents are appointed by the General Council. The Founding Congress was held in Vienna in Nov. 2006. Its second Congress was held in 2010 in Vancouver and its third in Berlin in 2014.

The ITUC has regional organizations for Africa, the Americas, Asia-Pacific and Europe. It has offices that deal with the International Labour Organization (Geneva), and the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund