Article 9

1. All activities of exploration and exploitation and other directly related activities shall be conducted by the Authority in accordance with legal arrangements with the Authority pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Authority and those included in this Convention.

2. Contracting Parties, groups of Contracting Parties and natural and juridical persons shall have the right to enter into legal arrangements with the Authority, without discrimination, subject to compliance with this Convention and regulations promulgated by the Authority in accordance with this Convention.

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1. All exploration and exploitation activities in the Area shall be conducted by the Authority either directly or in such a manner as it may determine. All activities in the Area are subject to regulation by the Authority.

2. The Authority, taking into consideration its financial and technological resources, shall decide either to conduct such activities itself or to grant licences for such activities to a contracting party or group of contracting parties or through them to natural or juridical persons under its authority or their authority or sponsorship, including multinational corporations or associations. Licences may also be issued for this purpose to international organizations.

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