INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY

Council

Draft Regulations on Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area

_regression of ISBA/5/G/4/Rev.1 of 15 October 1999
prepared by the Secretariat together with the President of the Council

Preamble

In accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"), the seabed and ocean floor and subsoil thereof beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, and its resources, are the common heritage of mankind. All rights in such resources are vested in mankind as a whole, on whose behalf the International Seabed Authority acts. The objective of this first set of Regulations is to provide for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic nodules.

PART I - INTRODUCTION

Use of terms and scope

1. Terms used in the Convention shall have the same meaning in these Regulations.

2. In accordance with the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, the provisions of the Agreement and Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 shall be interpreted and applied together as a single instrument. These Regulations and references in these Regulations to the Convention are to be interpreted and applied accordingly.

3. For the purposes of these Regulations: