

Council

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STATEMENT BY THE ACTING PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL CONCERNING
PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

1. The Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) entered into force on 28 July 1996. According to the Agreement, the membership in the Authority of those States and entities which have been applying the Agreement provisionally in accordance with Article 7 terminates unless it is extended as provided for in the Agreement. Under subparagraph 12(a) of Section 1 of the Annex to the Agreement, such States and entities are entitled to continue to participate as members on a provisional basis until 16 November 1996 upon notification to the depositary of their intention to so participate. The Council may, upon the request of the State or entity concerned, extend such membership beyond 16 November 1996 for a further period or periods not exceeding two years provided that the Council is satisfied that the State or entity concerned has been making efforts in good faith to become a party to the Agreement and the Convention.
2. The Council requests the Secretary-General to circulate to those States and entities which have been applying the Agreement provisionally a letter bringing to their attention the requirements contained in subparagraph 12(a) of the Annex to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea concerning the continuation of participation on a provisional basis after 16 November 1996. The letter should further note that any such request should be accompanied by information relating to the efforts taken by such State or entity to become a party to the Agreement and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.
3. In view of the fact that the next session of the Authority will be in March 1997, the Council decides that those States or entities Which submit requests for an extension of membership on a provisional basis beyond 16 November 1996 prior to the next session of the Council shall be deemed to be members of the Authority on a provisional basis until the end of

the next session of the Council, at which time the Council will deliberate on such request.