



Assembly

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Agenda item 7

Election to fill a vacancy on the Finance Committee, in accordance with section 9, paragraph 5, of the annex to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982

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Note by the Secretary-General

1. The Assembly of the International Seabed Authority is invited to note that Yedla Umasankar (India) resigned from the Finance Committee with effect from 24 November 2021. He had been elected by the Assembly at its twenty-third session as a member of the Committee for the remainder of the term of Koteswara M. Rao (India) ending on 31 December 2021. In line with the decision of the Assembly concerning the extension of the terms of office of the current members of the Committee,¹ his term had been extended until 31 December 2022.

2. Section 9, paragraph 5, of the annex to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 provides that, in the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Committee prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Assembly shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or group of States.

3. By a note verbale dated 24 November 2021, the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations informed the secretariat of the Authority of the nomination of Kajal Bhat to fill the seat on the Committee left vacant by Mr. Umasankar for the remainder of his term ending on 31 December 2022. The curriculum vitae of Ms. Bhat is contained in the annex to the present note.²

* New dates of the in-person meetings originally scheduled for July 2020 and then July 2021.

¹ See [ISBA/26/A/23](#).

² The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.



Annex

Curriculum vitae*

Dr. Kajal Bhat (India)

Born September 09, 1965,

Gender: Female

Educational qualifications: B.Sc., LL.M., Ph.D.,

At present: Counsellor/Legal Adviser, Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations.

POSITIONS

- Director, Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi (2018–2021).
- Counsellor (Legal Adviser), Embassy of India in The Hague, the Netherlands (2017–2018).
- First Secretary (Legal Adviser), Embassy of India in The Hague, the Netherlands (2014–2017).
- Legal Officer (Grade I), Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi (2011–2014).
- Legal Officer (Grade II), Legal & Treaties Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi (2006–2011).
- Lecturer, Department of Law (Law Centre-1), University of Delhi, New Delhi, (1999–2005).
- Advocate, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir, at Jammu (J&K), India (1991–1998).
- Life Member, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Teaching

- Taught International as well as domestic laws in Delhi University which included Environmental Laws, Law of the Sea, Public and Private International Law etc.
- Delivered Lectures on International Environmental Laws at The Indian Law Institute, New Delhi.
- Delivered Lectures to Officers of The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), New Delhi on topics covering International Law including Extradition, International cooperation in criminal matters, and diplomatic and consular relations between States.

Negotiations And Issues Handled

- Matters related to The United Nations Convention on The Law of The Sea.
- Matters related to Vienna Convention on The Law of Treaties.
- Matters related to Diplomatic Privileges and Immunities.

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.

- Matters related to Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Kyoto Protocol to The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
- Antarctica related issues (ATCM) and issues related to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctica Treaty.

Member of Indian Delegation

- Attended virtual Annual Session of United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), 2020–2021.
- Member of the Indian Delegation at COP-24, held in December 2018 in Poland.
- Co-Agent for India in the case (Kulbhushan Jadhav Case) between India and Pakistan before The International Court of Justice at The Hague (2017–2018).
- Member of the Indian Delegation at the Kartarpur Corridor High Level Meeting between India and Pakistan held in Amritsar for facilitation of Indian Sikh yatris to visit the Gurudwara, Darbar Sahib Kartarpur, Narowal, Pakistan.
- Coordinated the Provisional Measures hearing before The Arbitral Tribunal in arbitration between the Italian Republic and the Republic of India under Annex VII to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in the Italian Marine case.
- Member of the Indian Delegation to the Working Group on Preventing and Addressing Illicit Practices under The Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in respect of Inter-country Adoption.
- Represented India in all Administrative Council and Budget Committee meetings of The Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague, the Netherlands, between 2014 and 2018.
- Represented India in all meetings of The Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH) at The Hague, the Netherlands, between 2014 and 2018.

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