



Council

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Council session, part II

Kingston, 19–23 July 2021*

Agenda item 7

**Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical
Commission in accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of
the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, if any**

Election to fill a vacancy on the Legal and Technical Commission in accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Note by the Secretary-General

1. It is with deep sadness that the secretariat must inform the Council of the International Seabed Authority of the untimely demise of Milind P. Wadikar (India), who had been elected by the Council at its twenty-second session as a member of the Legal and Technical Commission for a term of five years commencing 1 January 2017 and ending on 31 December 2021 (see [ISBA/22/C/29](#)). It is recalled that, in 2021, on an exceptional basis, the Council adopted decision [ISBA/26/C/30](#) by which it extended the term of office of the current members of the Commission by one year, that is, until 31 December 2022.
2. In accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and rule 80, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Council, in the event of the death, incapacity or resignation of a member of the Commission prior to the expiration of the term of office, the Council shall elect for the remainder of the term a member from the same geographical region or area of interest.
3. By a note verbale dated 11 August 2021, the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations informed the secretariat of the Authority that its Government had decided to nominate Sethuraman Ramesh to fill the seat on the Commission left vacant by the demise of Mr. Wadikar for his term ending on 31 December 2022. The curriculum vitae of Mr. Ramesh is contained in the annex to the present note.¹
4. The Council is invited to consider electing Mr. Ramesh to fill the aforementioned vacancy in accordance with article 163, paragraph 7, of the Convention.

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

¹ The annex is being circulated in the language of submission only.



Annex**Curriculum vitae*****Sethuraman Ramesh (India)**

Name: Sethuraman Ramesh

Date of birth: 20 May 1968

Qualification: BSc (Geology – 1988), MSc (Applied Geology – 1990),
PhD in Marine Geology from University of Madras – 1998

Title: “Sedimentation and Paleo-climatic conditions of Late Pleistocene – Holocene sediments of the eastern part of Lower Bengal Fan, Northeast Indian Ocean”

Specialization: Geological Oceanography, Underwater Vehicles, Deep sea mineral Exploration

Research experience: 29 years in oceanography:

- **Serving as Scientist in National Institute of Ocean Technology-MoES, Chennai since 2002**
- **Project Leader at ICMAM-DOD-funded research project in Anna University – 1998–2002**
- **Junior and Senior Research Fellow under DOD and CSIR from 1992–97**

Present designation: Scientist – G, Scientist in Charge; Deep Sea Technology Group, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai – MoES

Awards/fellowships:

- **National Research Development Corporation (Government of India), National Meritorious Invention Awards – 2018** for the invention of “Underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle for Polar and Shallow Water Research”
- **National Geo-science Award from Ministry of Mines, Government of India on February 2012** for the outstanding contribution in the field of **Oil and Natural Gas Discovery and Exploration (Gas Hydrates)**.
- **DST -DAAD Fellow – Indo-German Collaboration bilateral programme**
- **ILTP programme – Indo-Russian Collaborative programme**

Expeditions participated:

- **34th Indian Summer Expedition to Antarctica** on board Russian Vessel **Ivan Papanin** and stayed at **Indian base station Maitri** for the first successful exploration in Antarctic Ice shelf using Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)
- Involved in development and Participation in deep sea trials **ROSUB 6000 – ROV and Deep sea Autonomous Coring System** for exploration of polymetallic manganese nodule, hydrothermal sulphides and gas hydrates from 2007 onwards
- **JOIDES, United States drilling ship and Marion Dufresne**, French vessel to decipher gas hydrate occurrence in Indian margins
- **Gas hydrates exploration in Lake Baikal, Siberia, Russian Federation**

Publications in Journals – 40; Chapters in Books – 3

Countries visited: Russian Federation, United States, Italy, Germany, Maldives, South Africa and Antarctica Life Member – Ocean Society of India

* Curricula vitae are issued without formal editing.