

Item 19 of the Provisional agenda of the Assembly*

**Election to fill the vacancies on the Council, in accordance
with article 161, paragraph 3, of the Convention**

**INDICATIVE LIST OF MEMBER STATES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY
WHICH WOULD FULFIL THE CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE VARIOUS GROUPS OF
STATES IN THE COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 3, PARAGRAPH 15, OF THE
ANNEX TO THE AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PART XI OF THE UNITED
NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA OF 10 DECEMBER 1982**

Prepared by the Secretariat

INTRODUCTION

1. In 1994, at the request of a number of delegations, the Secretariat prepared an informal paper in order to facilitate the determination of States which would fulfil the criteria for membership in the various groups of States in the Council of the International Seabed Authority (the “Authority”). Similar lists were prepared by the Secretariat for each successive election of the members of the Council since.

2. The requirement for the lists is contained in section 3, paragraph 9 of the Annex to the Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention of the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the “Agreement”), which states:

Before electing the members of the Council, the Assembly shall establish lists of countries fulfilling the criteria for membership in the groups of States in paragraph 15 (a) to (d). If a State fulfils the criteria for membership in more than one group, it may only be proposed by one group for election to the Council and it shall represent only that group in voting in the Council.”

3. In accordance with section 3, paragraph 15 of the Annex to the Agreement, the Council of the Authority shall consist of 36 members of the Authority, elected by the Assembly in the following order:

a) Four members from among those States Parties which, during the last five years for which statistics are available, have either consumed more than 2 per cent in value terms of total world consumption or have had net imports of more than 2 per cent in value terms of total world imports of the commodities produced from the categories of minerals to be derived from the Area, provided that the four members shall include one State from Eastern Europe region having the largest economy in that region in terms of gross domestic product and the State, on the date of entry into force of the Convention, having the largest economy in terms of gross domestic product, if such States wish to be represented in this group **[Group A]**;

b) Four members from among the eight States Parties which have made the largest investments in preparation for and in the conduct of activities in the Area, either directly or through their nationals **[Group B]**;

c) Four members from among States Parties which, on the basis of production in areas under their jurisdiction, are major net exporters of the categories of minerals to be derived from the Area, including at least two developing States whose exports of such minerals have a substantial bearing upon their economies **[Group C]**;

* ISBA/29/A/L.1

d) Six members from among developing States Parties, representing special interests. The special interests to be represented include those of States with large populations, States which are landlocked or geographically disadvantaged, island States, States which are major importers of the categories of minerals to be derived from the Area, States which are potential producers of such minerals and least developed States **[Group D]**;

e) Eighteen members elected according to the principle of ensuring an equitable geographical distribution of the seats in the Council as a whole, provided that each geographical region shall have at least one member elected under this subparagraph. For this purpose, the geographical regions shall be Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean and Western Europe and Others **[Group E]**;

4. The lists of States contained in the present paper are of a purely indicative nature and not necessarily exhaustive.

GROUP A

List 1

MAJOR CONSUMERS OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD CONSUMPTION OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA¹

State	Cumulative value of net consumption (2018-2022) (USD millions) ²	Approximate % of total world consumption (2018-2022) ³
China	636,560	40.7%
South Africa	119,321	7.6%
Indonesia	79,720	5.1%
Australia	76,888	4.9%
Gabon	70,081	4.5%
(United States of America) *	56,650	3.6%
India	56,253	3.6%
Republic of Korea	36,796	2.4%
Japan	34,912	2.2%
Others	636,560	25.4%

*Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority.⁴

¹ Based on list 2 of ISBA/29/A/CRP.2.

² Cumulative consumption of the commodities produced from cobalt, copper, manganese, and nickel.

³ Total world consumption is calculated as the sum of cumulative consumption of all the States, which either produce, import and export or only import and export the commodities produced from cobalt, copper, manganese, and nickel.

⁴ Pursuant to article 7 of the 1994 Agreement and paragraph 12(a), section 1 of the Annex to the 1994 Agreement, the United States of America had been a member of the Authority on a provisional basis until 1998.

List 2A

MAJOR CONSUMERS⁵ OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD CONSUMPTION OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA (COBALT, COPPER, MANGANESE, NICKEL)

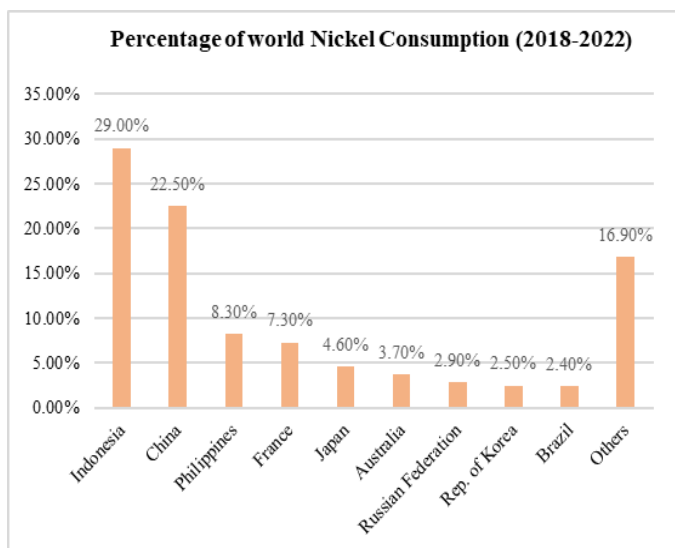
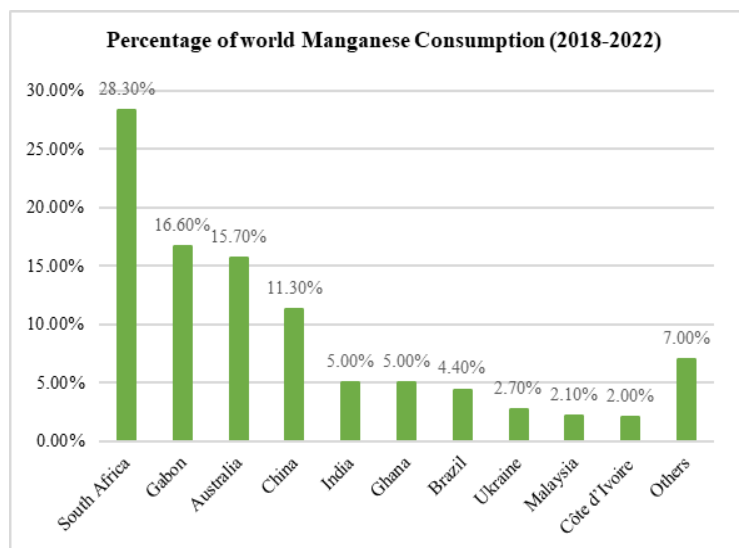
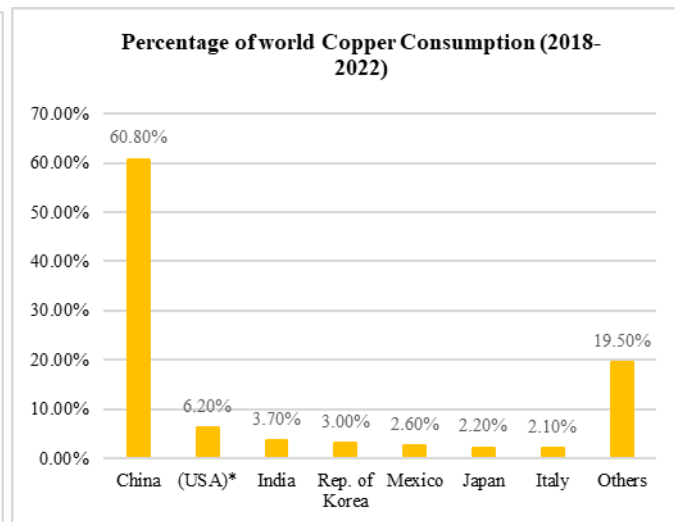
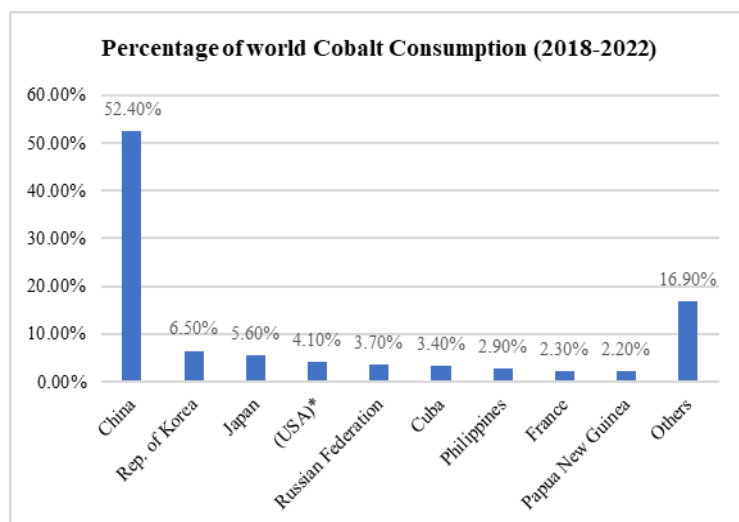
Cobalt			Copper			Manganese			Nickel		
State	Consumption		State	Consumption		State	Consumption		State	Consumption	
	Value (USD million)	% of total world		Value (USD million)	% of total world		Value (USD million)	% of total world		Value (USD million)	% of total world
China	18,330	52.4	China	509,783	60.8	South Africa	119,162	28.3	Indonesia	78,419	29.0
Republic of Korea	2,258	6.5	(USA)*	51,762	6.2	Gabon	70,080	16.6	China	60,832	22.5
Japan	1,947	5.6	India	31,087	3.7	Australia	66,054	15.7	Philippines	22,346	8.3
(USA)*	1,444	4.1	Republic of Korea	25,064	3.0	China	47,614	11.3	France	19,698	7.3
Russian Federation	1,280	3.7	Mexico	21,502	2.6	India	20,881	5.0	Japan	12,342	4.6
Cuba	1,205	3.4	Japan	18,552	2.2	Ghana	20,870	5.0	Australia	10,146	3.7
Philippines	1003	2.9	Italy	17,933	2.1	Brazil	18,348	4.4	Russian Federation	7,872	2.9
France	787	2.3	Others	163,222	19.4	Ukraine	11,247	2.7	Republic of Korea	6,851	2.5
Papua New Guinea	763	2.2				Malaysia	8,700	2.1	Brazil	6,488	2.4
Others	5,939	16.9				Côte d'Ivoire	8,575	2.0	Others	45,722	16.9
						Others	29,408	7.0			

*Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority

⁵ Consumption is calculated as the value of the national production plus imports, minus exports, or simply imports minus exports where there is no production. Import and export statistics are obtained from UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, UN COMTRADE Database (2018-2022) <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow>, selected classification: HS as reported. Mine production data (2018-2021) obtained from British Geological Survey - World Mineral Production and 2022 data from United States Geological Survey. Unit metal prices used for calculation of value in US dollars for the four minerals produced are approximate and are based on the five-year average market price over 2018-2022.

List 2B

MAJOR CONSUMERS OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD CONSUMPTION OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA (PERCENTAGE OF WORLD CONSUMPTION)



List 3

MAJOR NET IMPORTERS OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD IMPORTS OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA⁶

State	Cumulative net imports (2018-2022) (USD millions)	Approximate % of total world imports
China	590,989	38.1
Japan	91,140	5.9
Germany	86,258	5.6
(USA)*	81,753	5.3
Republic of Korea	70,757	4.6
India	49,184	3.2
Italy	46,785	3
Others	534,612	34.5

*Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority

⁶ Based on list 4 of ISBA/29/A/CRP.2. Source of import data - UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, Trade data, UN Comtrade: <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> Selected trade flow: Import.

LIST 4

MAJOR IMPORTERS⁷ OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD IMPORT OF THE COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORY OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA

a) Cobalt and Copper

Cobalt						Copper					
Ores & Concentrates			Articles			Ores & Concentrates			Articles		
State	Value (USD million)	% of world import	State	Value (USD million)	% of world import	State	Value (USD million)	% of world import	State	Value (USD million)	% of world import
China	20,192	58.4	Rep. of Korea	1,697	35.9	China	215,313	56.7	China	271,896	30.3
(USA)*	2,616	7.6	Spain	433	9.1	Japan	54,168	14.3	Germany	61,887	6.9
Japan	2,497	7.2	Zambia	381	8.1	Rep. of Korea	24,346	6.4	(USA)*	61,431	6.8
Belgium	1,086	3.1	(USA)*	334	7.1	Spain	12,571	3.3	Italy	41,619	4.6
Germany	1,001	2.9	Namibia	292	6.2	Germany	12,354	3.3	Rep. of Korea	33,500	3.7
United Kingdom	964	2.8	Belgium	291	6.1	India	10,509	2.8	India	28,807	3.2
Rep. of Korea	700	2.0	Japan	216	4.6	Bulgaria	9,139	2.4	Thailand	24,645	2.7
Other	5,530	16.0	Germany	195	4.1	Other	41,392	10.9	Belgium	21,372	2.4
			China	172	3.6				France	20,471	2.3
			Italy	116	2.4				Malaysia	18,599	2.1
			Other	601	12.7				Other	313,462	34.9

*Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority.

⁷ Source of import data is UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, Trade data, UN Comtrade: <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> Selected trade flow: Import. Years: 2018 - 2022.

**MAJOR IMPORTERS OF MORE THAN TWO PERCENT IN VALUE TERMS OF TOTAL WORLD IMPORT OF THE
COMMODITIES PRODUCED FROM THE CATEGORY OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA**

b) Manganese and Nickel

Manganese						Nickel					
Ores & Concentrates			Articles			Ores & Concentrates			Articles		
State	Value (USD million)	% of world import	State	Value (USD million)	% of world import	State	Value (USD million)	% of world import	State	Value (USD million)	% of world import
China	27,767	62.6	Rep. of Korea	1,168	16.2	China	18,899	75.9	China	36,542	22.7
India	4,455	10.0	Japan	992	13.7	Rep. of Korea	1,396	5.6	Japan	15,575	9.7
Rep. of Korea	1,525	3.4	Germany	612	8.5	Canada	1,361	5.5	(USA)*	15,475	9.6
Norway	1,392	3.1	India	571	7.9	Finland	1,188	4.8	Norway	11,287	7.0
Malaysia	1,325	3.0	Russian Federation	536	7.4	Japan	1,173	4.7	Germany	9,945	6.2
Japan	1,282	2.9	USA*	531	7.4	Other	876	3.5	United Kingdom	6,818	4.2
Russian Federation	1,094	2.5	Netherlands	480	6.6				Finland	6,446	4.0
Other	5,537	12.5	Brazil	356	4.9				Rep. of Korea	6,424	4.0
			Austria	269	3.7				France	6,323	3.9
			France	210	2.9				Italy	4,718	2.9
			China	208	2.9				Netherlands	4,537	2.8
			Other	4,634	10.4				India	4,460	2.8
									Other	32,421	20.1

* Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority.

GROUP B

List 5

STATES WHICH HAVE MADE THE LARGEST INVESTMENT IN PREPARATION FOR AND IN THE CONDUCT OF ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA, EITHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH THEIR NATIONALS

1. With respect to this Group, the Assembly is required to elect four States Parties from among the eight States Parties, which have made the largest investments in preparation for and in conduct of activities in the Area, either directly or through their nationals.

2. For this purpose, the Assembly will need to ascertain, which States Parties are currently the largest investors. In 1995, following consultations and exchange of information among the following eighteen States, which considered themselves as belonging to this category on the basis of the previous investments in deep seabed mining activities, there was agreement within the Group that the eight largest investors at the time (1995) were China, France, Germany, India, Japan, Netherlands, the Russian Federation and the United States of America (ISBA/A/L.1, para.14).

3. Pursuant to a request made initially at the ninth session by one delegation, the Secretary-General had, prior to each election for Group B, written to each of the member States listed below, inviting them to provide such information as may be considered appropriate to enable the Secretariat to update the present indicative list. In line with this practice, the Secretary-General wrote to the member States listed below on 15 September 2023. The responses were expected by 31 January 2024. As of 31 January 2024, a response was received from one member State. In light of this, the Secretariat has not made any changes to the Group B indicative list established in 1995.

States eligible for membership in Group B (list established in 1995)	
Belgium*	Italy
Bulgaria*	Japan*
Canada	Netherlands
China*	Poland*
Cuba*	Republic of Korea*
Czechia*	Russian Federation*
France*	Slovakia*
Germany*	United Kingdom*
India*	(United States of America)**

* The State has a contract with the Authority or is a sponsoring State of a contractor.

**Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority. Pursuant to article 7 of the 1994 Agreement and paragraph 12(a), section 1 of the Annex to the 1994 Agreement, the United States of America had been a member of the Authority on a provisional basis until 1998.

GROUP C

List 6

MAJOR PRODUCERS AND NET EXPORTERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA (COBALT, COPPER, MANGANESE, NICKEL)

List 6-A

A. COBALT

COBALT						
Mine Production (2018-2022) ⁸				Export of Ores and Concentrates (2018 – 2022) ⁹		
State	Metal Content (metric tonnes)	% of World Production	Value (Million USD)	State	Value (Million USD)	% of World Production
Democratic Republic of the Congo	510,968	70.9	25,881	Democratic Republic of the Congo	537	94.2
Russian Federation	33,850	4.7	1,715	Others	35	5.8
Australia	27,957	3.9	1,434			
Cuba	23,800	3.3	1,205			
Canada	21,913	3.0	1,110			
Philippines	19,850	2.8	1,005			
Papua New Guinea	15,072	2.1	763			
Others	67,405	9.4	3,751			

⁸ Production data based on British Geological Survey, World Mineral Production 2017-2021 and United States Geological Survey data for 2022. Unit Price used USD50,650 per tonne of monthly closing price (2018-2022).

⁹ For export data, UN Comtrade database, <http://comtrade.un.org/db/default.aspx>, selected classification: HS as reported, selected years: 2018-2022.

List 6-B

B. COPPER

COPPER						
Mine Production (2018-2022)¹⁰				Exports of Ores and Concentrates (2018-2022)¹¹		
State	Metal Content (metric tonnes)	% of World Production	Value (Million USD)	State	Value (Million USD)	% of World Export
Chile	28,307,000	27.5	206,699	Chile	109,954	31.0
(Peru)*	11,791,878	11.5	86,105	(Peru)*	63,014	17.7
China	8,712,034	8.5	63,616	Australia	23,152	6.5
Democratic Republic of the Congo	8,394,657	8.2	61,298	Indonesia	22,509	6.3
(USA)*	6,140,000	6.0	44,835	Canada	16,618	4.7
Russian Federation	4,443,000	4.3	32,443	Mexico	14,095	4.0
Australia	4,347,720	4.2	31,747	Brazil	13,488	3.8
Zambia	4,132,157	4.0	30,173	(USA)*	12,465	3.5
Mexico	3,698,700	3.6	27,008	Mongolia	11,221	3.2
Indonesia	3,225,136	3.1	23,550	(Kazakhstan)*	7,775	2.2
(Kazakhstan)*	2,854,300	2.8	20,842	Others	60,819	17.1
Canada	2,763,818	2.7	20,182			
Poland	2,128,300	2.1	15,541			
Others	12,027,888	11.7	87,828			

*Non-member States of the International Seabed Authority.

¹⁰ Data based on British Geological Survey, Worlds Mineral Production 2017-2021 and USGS data for 2022. Unit Price used US\$7,302 per tonne of LME monthly average cash settlement price 2018-2022.

¹¹ For export data: <http://comtrade.un.org/db/default.aspx>, selected classification: HS as reported, selected years: 2018-2022.

List 6-C

C. MANGANESE

MANGANESE						
Mine Production (2018-2022) ¹²				Export of Ores and Concentrates (2018 – 2022) ¹³		
State	Metal Content ('000 metric tonnes)	% of World Production	Value (Million USD)	State	Value (Million USD)	% of World Production
South Africa	33,200	33.6	134,472	South Africa	14,779	74.8
Gabon	17,692	17.9	71,659	Gabon	1,555	7.9
Australia	16,279	16.5	65,936	Brazil	1,544	7.8
China	6,164	6.2	24,967	Ghana	638	3.2
Ghana	5,310	5.4	21,507	Others	1,230	6.2
Brazil	4,832	4.9	19,571			
India	3,950	4.0	15,999			
Ukraine	2,656	2.7	10,758			
Côte d'Ivoire	2117	2.1	8,575			
Others	6,593	6.7	26,704			

¹² Data is obtained from British Geological Survey, Worlds Mineral Production 2017-2021 and 2022 data from United States Geological Survey Mineral Commodity Summaries. Unit Price used USD4,050 per tonne of contained metal. USGS Minerals Yearbook 2023 - Manganese

¹³ Export data Source: UNComtrade Database <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow>, ores and concentrates commodity code.

List 6-D

D. NICKEL

NICKEL						
Mine Production (2018-2022) ¹⁴				Export of Ores and Concentrates (2018 – 2022) ¹⁵		
State	Metal Content, metric tonnes	% of World Production	Value (Million USD)	State	Value (Million USD)	% of World Production
Indonesia	5,257,700	38.6	89,2901	Philippines	4,858	30.7
Philippines	1,728,022	12.7	29,347	Zimbabwe	2,845	18.0
Russian Federation	1,090,500	8.0	18,520	Indonesia	1,725	10.9
France	1,010,169	7.4	17,156	Australia	1,473	9.3
Canada	810,690	6.0	13,768	Finland	1,277	8.1
Australia	793,993	5.8	13,484	(USA)*	1,183	7.5
China	530,150	3.9	9,003	Canada	778	4.9
Brazil	362,600	2.7	6,158	Brazil	636	4.0
Others	1,617,154	14.9	34,325	Russian Federation	440	2.8
				Others	630	4.0

*Non-member State of the International Seabed Authority.

¹⁴ Production data obtained from British Geological Survey, Worlds Mineral Production 2017-2021, and 2022 data from United States Geological Survey. Unit Price used US\$16,983 per tonne of LME monthly average cash settlement price 2018-2022.

¹⁵ Source: UN Comtrade Database <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow>, ores and concentrates commodity code.

GROUP D

List 7

DEVELOPING STATES WITH A LARGE POPULATION¹⁶

State	Population (millions) in 2022	Percentage of World Population in 2022 (7,975.11 million)
China	1,425.89	17.9%
India	1,407.56	17.6%
Indonesia	273.75	3.4%
Pakistan	231.40	2.9%
Brazil	214.33	2.7%
Nigeria	213.40	2.7%
Bangladesh	169.36	2.1%

¹⁶ Source: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, UNCTDStat Data centre
(<https://unctadstat.unctad.org/datacentre/dataviewer/US.PopTotal>)

List 8

DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE LANDLOCKED OR GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED

Land-locked Countries (20) ¹⁷	Geographically Disadvantaged (15) ¹⁸
Armenia	Algeria
Azerbaijan	Bahrain
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	Cameroon
Botswana	Congo, Democratic Republic of
Burkina Faso	Djibouti
Chad	Gambia
Eswatini	Iraq
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Jamaica
Lesotho	Jordan
Macedonia, North	Kuwait
Malawi	Montenegro
Mali	Qatar
Moldova, Rep. of	Serbia
Mongolia	Singapore
Nepal	Sudan
Niger	
Paraguay	
Uganda	
Zambia	
Zimbabwe	

¹⁷ Source of landlocked countries data is the UN office of the high representative for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states (OHRLLS) <https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/list-lllcs> (the table is limited to members of the International Seabed Authority only).

¹⁸ Source of geographically disadvantaged developing States is List 8 of ISBA/24/A/CRP.2 (24 May 2018).

List 9

SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES¹⁹

Members of the United Nations	
Antigua and Barbuda	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Bahamas	Nauru
Barbados	Palau
Belize	Papua New-Guinea
Cabo Verde	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Comoros	Saint Lucia
Cuba	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Dominica	Samoa
Dominican Republic	São Tomé and Príncipe
Fiji	Seychelles
Grenada	Singapore
Guinea-Bissau	Solomon Islands
Guyana	Suriname
Haiti	Timor-Leste
Jamaica	Tonga
Kiribati	Trinidad and Tobago
Maldives	Tuvalu
Marshall Islands	Vanuatu
Mauritius	
Non-Members of the United Nations	
Cook Islands	
Nuie	

¹⁹ Source: UN office of the high representative for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states (OHRLLS) (<https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/list-sids>)

List 10

DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE MAJOR IMPORTERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA²⁰

Cobalt	Copper	Manganese	Nickel
China	China	China	China
Zambia	India	India	Singapore
India	Malaysia	Indonesia	Malaysia
Singapore	Thailand	Brazil	India

²⁰ Based on lists 4 and 11 of ISBA/29/A/CRP.2. Source of import data: UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, UN Comtrade database; <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> (Trade flow - Imports).

List 11

DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE MAJOR IMPORTERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA²¹

State	Mineral Commodity	Approximate % of World Import	Trade Value (million USD)
China	Copper	38.1%	487,209
	Cobalt	51.8%	20,364
	Nickel	29.8%	55,442
	Manganese	54.2%	27,975
India	Copper	3.1%	39,316
	Nickel	2.4%	4,460
	Manganese	9.7%	5,025
Malaysia	Copper	1.6%	21,065
	Nickel	0.6%	1,145
	Manganese	2.6%	1,330
Thailand	Copper	1.9%	24,647
Mexico	Copper	1.7%	21,130
	Nickel	1.0%	1,768

²¹ Based on list 4 of ISBA/29/A/CRP.2. Source of import data: UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Statistics Division, UN Comtrade database; <https://comtradeplus.un.org/TradeFlow> (Trade flow - Imports). Years: 2018-2022.

List 12

DEVELOPING STATES WHICH ARE POTENTIAL PRODUCERS OF THE CATEGORIES OF MINERALS TO BE DERIVED FROM THE AREA

State ²²	Minerals	State	Minerals ²³
(Afghanistan)*	Nickel	Madagascar	Cobalt, Nickel
Argentina	Copper	Malaysia	Manganese
Armenia	Copper	Mauritania	Copper
Azerbaijan	Copper	Mexico	Copper, Manganese
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Copper	Mongolia	Copper
Botswana	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel	Morocco	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel, Manganese
Brazil	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel, Manganese	Myanmar	Copper, Nickel, Manganese
Chile	Copper	Namibia	Copper, Manganese
China	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel, Manganese	North Macedonia	Copper, Nickel
(Colombia)*	Copper, Nickel, Manganese	Oman	Manganese
Côte d'Ivoire	Nickel, Manganese	Pakistan	Copper
Cuba	Cobalt, Nickel	Panama	Copper
(Democratic People's Republic of Korea)*	Copper	Papua New Guinea	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Cobalt, Copper, Manganese	(Peru)*	Copper, Manganese
Dominican Republic	Copper, Nickel	Philippines	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel
Ecuador	Copper	Romania	Copper, Manganese
Egypt	Manganese	Saudi Arabia	Copper
(Eritrea)*	Copper	Serbia	Copper
Gabon	Manganese	South Africa	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel, Manganese
Georgia	Copper, Manganese	Sudan	Manganese
Ghana	Manganese	(Tajikistan)*	Copper
Guatemala	Nickel	Thailand	Manganese
India	Copper, Manganese	(Türkiye)*	Copper, Nickel, Manganese
Indonesia	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel	United Republic of Tanzania	Copper
(Iran)*	Copper, Manganese	(Uzbekistan)*	Copper
(Kazakhstan)*	Copper, Manganese	Viet Nam	Copper, Manganese
(Kyrgyzstan)*	Copper	Zambia	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Copper	Zimbabwe	Cobalt, Copper, Nickel

*Non-members of the International Seabed Authority

²² Source of Developing States: United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Statistics (UNCTADStat), Data Centre, updated as of July 2023: <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/datacentre/dataviewer/US.PopTotal>

²³ Production data from British Geological Survey, World Mineral Production 2018-2021.

List 13
LEAST DEVELOPED STATES²⁴

The Least Developed States	
Angola	Mauritania
Bangladesh	Mozambique
Benin	Myanmar
Burkina Faso	Nepal
Chad	Niger
Comoros	Rwanda
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Sao Tome and Principe
Djibouti	Senegal
Gambia	Sierra Leone
Guinea	Solomon Islands
Guinea-Bissau	Somalia
Haiti	Sudan
Kiribati	Timor-Leste
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Togo
Lesotho	Tuvalu
Liberia	Uganda
Madagascar	United Republic of Tanzania
Malawi	Yemen
Mali	Zambia

²⁴ The list is limited to States that are members of the International Seabed Authority. Source: UN office of the high representative for the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states (OHRLLS). <https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/list-ldcs>

GROUP E
List 14
REGIONAL GROUPS²⁵

African Group (48 Members)					
1	Algeria	17	Gabon	33	Niger
2	Angola	18	Gambia	34	Nigeria
3	Benin	19	Ghana	35	Rwanda
4	Botswana	20	Guinea	36	Sao Tome and Principe
5	Burkina Faso	21	Guinea-Bissau	37	Senegal
6	Cabo Verde	22	Kenya	38	Seychelles
7	Cameroon	23	Lesotho	39	Sierra Leone
8	Chad	24	Liberia	40	Somalia
9	Comoros	25	Madagascar	41	South Africa
10	Congo	26	Malawi	42	Sudan
11	Côte d'Ivoire	27	Mali	43	Togo
12	Democratic Republic of the Congo	28	Mauritania	44	Tunisia
13	Djibouti	29	Mauritius	45	Uganda
14	Egypt	30	Morocco	46	United Republic of Tanzania
15	Equatorial Guinea	31	Mozambique	47	Zambia
16	Eswatini	32	Namibia	48	Zimbabwe
Asia-Pacific Group (45 Members)					
1	Bahrain	16	Lebanon	31	Qatar
2	Bangladesh	17	Malaysia	32	Republic of Korea
3	Brunei Darussalam	18	Maldives	33	Samoa
4	China	19	Marshall Islands	34	Saudi Arabia
5	Cook Islands	20	Micronesia (Federated States of)	35	Singapore
6	Cyprus	21	Mongolia	36	Solomon Islands
7	Fiji	22	Myanmar	37	Sri Lanka
8	India	23	Nauru	38	State of Palestine
9	Indonesia	24	Nepal	39	Thailand
10	Iraq	25	Niue	40	Timor-Leste
11	Japan	26	Oman	41	Tonga
12	Jordan	27	Pakistan	42	Tuvalu
13	Kiribati	28	Palau	43	Vanuatu
14	Kuwait	29	Papua New Guinea	44	Viet Nam
15	Lao People's Democratic Republic	30	Philippines	45	Yemen

²⁵ The list is compiled on the basis of the unofficial list used for the United Nations General Assembly election and is limited to the member States of the International Seabed Authority (168 as of 8 April 2024). The European Union, which is a member, is not counted for this purpose.

Eastern European Group (23 Members)					
1	Albania	9	Estonia	17	Poland
2	Armenia	10	Georgia	18	Romania
3	Azerbaijan	11	Hungary	19	Russian Federation
4	Belarus	12	Latvia	20	Serbia
5	Bosnia and Herzegovina	13	Lithuania	21	Slovakia
6	Bulgaria	14	Macedonia, North	22	Slovenia
7	Croatia	15	Moldova	23	Ukraine
8	Czechia	16	Montenegro		
Latin American and Caribbean States Group (29 Members)					
1	Antigua and Barbuda	11	Dominica	21	Nicaragua
2	Argentina	12	Dominican Republic	22	Panama
3	Bahamas	13	Ecuador	23	Paraguay
4	Barbados	14	Grenada	24	Saint Kitts and Nevis
5	Belize	15	Guatemala	25	Saint Lucia
6	Bolivia (Plurinational State)	16	Guyana	26	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
7	Brazil	17	Haiti	27	Suriname
8	Chile	18	Honduras	28	Trinidad and Tobago
9	Costa Rica	19	Jamaica	29	Uruguay
10	Cuba	20	Mexico		
Western Europe and Other States Group (23 Members)					
1	Australia	9	Greece	17	New Zealand
2	Austria	10	Iceland	18	Norway
3	Belgium	11	Ireland	19	Portugal
4	Canada	12	Italy	20	Spain
5	Denmark	13	Luxembourg	21	Sweden
6	Finland	14	Malta	22	Switzerland
7	France	15	Monaco	23	United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland
8	Germany	16	Netherlands		