

COUNCIL  
113th session  
Agenda item 15

C 113/15/1  
18 September 2014  
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## CONTRACT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

### Practices and procedures for the appointment of the Secretary-General

#### Note by the Secretary-General

#### SUMMARY

*Executive summary:* This document outlines background information concerning the practices and procedures for the appointment of the next Secretary-General. It is presented for information of the Council

*Strategic direction:* 4

*High-level action:* 4.0.5

*Planned output:* No related provisions

*Action to be taken:* Paragraph 8

*Related documents:* C 113/15

1 The Assembly, at its twenty-seventh session, adopted resolution A.1035(27), approving the recommendation of the 106th session of the Council to appoint Mr. Koji Sekimizu as Secretary-General of the Organization from 1 January 2012 until 31 December 2015.

2 In document C 113/15, the Council has been informed of Mr. Sekimizu's decision not to seek re-appointment as Secretary-General. Consequently, the Council should, at this session, decide on procedures and actions culminating in the election of the next Secretary-General at its June/July 2015 session and his/her appointment by the next session of the Assembly (November/December 2015), so that he/she may start on 1 January 2016.

3 This document provides the Council with background information to assist in its consideration of the arrangements for appointing the next Secretary-General.

4 The Council will recall that the matter of the participation of non-Council Members in the appointment process for Secretaries-General was addressed in Council document C 88/27(b) and the Council took a decision at its eighty-ninth session (C 89/D, paragraph 29(b).1) that observer Member States invited to participate in the Council under Rule 4 of the Council's Rules of Procedure would be allowed to participate as observers also

at meetings considering matters in connection with the appointment of the Secretary-General.

5 The IMO Convention states, in Article 22:

"The Council, with the approval of the Assembly, shall appoint the Secretary-General. The Council shall also make provision for the appointment of such other personnel as may be necessary, and determine the terms and conditions of service of the Secretary-General and other personnel, which terms and conditions shall conform as far as possible with those of the United Nations and its specialized agencies."

6 In support of the process envisaged in Article 22, the following procedures will be observed:

- (i) the Secretary-General will issue a Note Verbale informing all Member States that the post of Secretary-General will become vacant on the expiration of the contract of the serving Secretary-General;
- (ii) the Council, in accordance with Article 22 of the IMO Convention, will take the necessary action at its June/July 2015 session with regard to the appointment of the next Secretary-General, for submission to the Assembly for its approval at its next regular session;
- (iii) applications from candidates for the position of Secretary-General will be invited through the above-mentioned Note Verbale, to reach IMO by 31 March 2015 at the latest;
- (iv) as soon as possible after 31 March 2015, the Secretary-General will circulate to Members of the Council, in an appropriate manner, any candidacies received, or any other communications received in response to the invitation referred to above; and
- (v) the matter of the appointment of the Secretary-General will be placed on the agenda of the June/July 2015 session of the Council.

7 At the June/July 2015 session of the Council, the Secretary-General will also provide the detailed voting procedures for the appointment of the next Secretary-General, reflecting the related decisions of the Council adopted at its 105th and 106th sessions.

#### **Action requested of the Council**

8 The Council is invited to take note of the information contained in this document and decide as it deems necessary, in particular, with respect to the procedures outlined in paragraph 6 above.