

**ASFA Advisory Board Meeting
(FAO, Rome, 4-8 October 2005)**

Intersessional Report, June 2004 – September 2005

**Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs
United Nations**

I. Institution

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II. Board Member/Input Staff

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III. Inputting

During the period June 2004 through September 2005 the Division submitted five batches of input totaling 262 abstracts, all in machine readable format. Of these, 153 were submitted from January to September 2005. Another batch is expected to be submitted in October 2005. The new WWW-ISIS-ASFA program has improved the efficiency of inputting which has resulted in an increase in the number of abstracts submitted.

IV. Distribution list for complimentary ASFA entitlements

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V. ASFA journals/CD-ROM/IDS subscription and usage

The ASFA journals and CD-ROMs are available for consultation by DOALOS and other interested staff members at the United Nations. Users both within and outside the United Nations have requested access to the ASFA database for specialized searches (e.g., remote sensing, coastal zone management). There have been no problems with the Division's CD-ROM subscription and the latest updates have been received. In addition, the Division continues to make use of its IDS access to the ASFA database which it has made available to all United Nations staff members through the UN intranet DOALOS Periodical Portal and it has been well received. This access is also used in the DOALOS Research Library by delegates from Permanent Missions to the United Nations, academicians, the UN-Nippon Fellows, the H. S. Amerasinghe Fellows and interns. In view of the availability of IDS, and of space limitations in the office, the Division feels it no longer needs to receive hard copies of the three journals.

VI. Monitoring/coverage

In accordance with the intention expressed by DOALOS at the 1998 meeting of the Board, DOALOS continues to carry out an assessment of the adequacy of its current coverage of serials and monographs. To properly cover the field of ocean law and policy, which includes management, technology, economics and living and non-living resources, taking account of resource and logistical constraints, the Division continues to revise its monitoring list each year. This year, due to logistical constraints no new journals were added to the monitoring list. However, the Division continues to review journals received by the UN's Dag Hammarskjöld Library, as well as other journals in general circulation, with a view to possible inclusion in its monitoring list. The total number of items currently on the DOALOS list is 26. (See Annex)

VII. Problems and ideas for development and improvements to ASFA

The Division has been using the new ASFA software with great success and there have been no significant problems to report. We are awaiting the release of the "Henry I" version. It has improved the Division's productivity not only in the area of ASFA inputting but in the Law of the Sea library database management and production of the Law of the Sea Bibliography. The integration of WWW-ISIS-ASFA with the Division's library-related functions is being successfully implemented and further developed. It is envisaged that WWW-ISIS-ASFA outputs will be integrated into the holdings database of the United Nations' Dag Hammarskjöld main library collection.

VIII. Trust Fund Proposals

No proposal at this time.

AnnexMonitoring list as of September 2005/UNDOALOS

American Journal of International Law
 Annual Report of the Netherlands Institute for the Law of the Sea
 British Yearbook of International Law
 Canadian Yearbook of International Law
 Coastal Management
 ESCAP Studies in Trade and Investment
 European Journal of International Law
 German Yearbook of International Law
 International and Comparative Law Quarterly
 International Journal of Marine and Coastal Law
 International Legal Materials
 International Organizations and the Law of the Sea Documentary Yearbook
 Law of the Sea Bibliography
 Law of the Sea Bulletin
 Limits in the Seas
 Maritime Studies
 Monographie. Division de l'Agriculture, Commission Economique pour l'Afrique
 Natural Resources Forum
 Netherlands International Law Review
 Netherlands Yearbook of International Law
 Ocean Development and International Law
 Petroleum Review
 Review of Maritime Transport, UNCTAD
 Sea Technology
 U.S. Naval War College International Law Studies
 Yearbook. International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
 All other miscellaneous DOALOS, UN and external publications and documents relevant to ASFA-I and/or II and/or III, as appropriate in the case of cross-sectoral items. */

*/ This includes, inter alia:

- 1) Sales publications of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;
- 2) Annual comprehensive Report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly on Oceans and the Law of the Sea which has been made available to the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 in order to facilitate the annual review by the Assembly of developments in ocean affairs (Consultative Process).
- 3) The report on the work of the Consultative Process for submission to the General Assembly;
- 4) The biennial reports to the General Assembly on Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks and on Large-Scale Pelagic Drift-net Fishing, Unauthorized Fishing in Zones of National Jurisdiction on the High Seas, and Fisheries By-Catch and Discards; and
- 5) Any special Reports requested by the United Nations General Assembly.