

management system and standards and the ISO 14000 series of environmental management system standards. Standardization programmes are now being developed in completely new fields, such as food safety, security, social responsibility and the service sector.

*Mission.* To promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world with a view to facilitating the international exchange of goods and services, and to developing co-operation in the spheres of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity.

*Headquarters:* 8 Chemin de Blandonnet, CP 401,  
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva, Switzerland.  
*Website:* <http://www.iso.org>  
*Email:* [central@iso.org](mailto:central@iso.org)  
*President:* Zhang Xiaogang (China).

---

## International Road Federation (IRF)

The IRF is a non-profit, non-political service organization whose purpose is to encourage better road and transportation systems worldwide and to help apply technology and management practices to give maximum economic and social returns from national road investments.

Founded following the Second World War, over the years the IRF has led major global road infrastructure developments, including achieving 1,000 km of new roads in Mexico in the 1950s, and promoting the Pan-American Highway linking North and South America. The IRF works together with members and associates in 118 countries, promoting social and economic benefits that flow from well planned and environmentally sound road transport networks. It publishes *World Road Statistics*, covering over 200 countries and territories.

*Headquarters:* Madison Place, 500 Montgomery St.,  
Fifth Floor, Alexandria, Virginia 22314, USA.  
*Website:* <http://irfnews.org>  
*Email:* [info@IRF.global](mailto:info@IRF.global)  
*Chairman:* Abdullah A. Al-Mogbel (Saudi Arabia).

---

## International Seabed Authority (ISA)

The ISA is an autonomous international organization established under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) of 1982 and the 1994 Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the UNCLOS. It came into existence on 16 Nov. 1994 and became fully operational in June 1996.

The administrative expenses are met from assessed contributions from its members. Membership numbered 168 in Feb. 2017; the budget for the biennium 2015–16 was US\$15,743,143.

The UNCLOS covers almost all ocean space and its uses: navigation and overflight, resource exploration and exploitation, conservation and pollution, fishing and shipping. It entitles coastal states and inhabitable islands to proclaim a 12-mile territorial sea, a contiguous zone, a 200-mile exclusive economic zone and an extended continental shelf (in some cases). Its 320 Articles and nine Annexes constitute a guide for behaviour by states in the world's oceans, defining maritime zones, laying down rules for drawing sea boundaries, assigning legal rights, duties and responsibilities to States, and providing machinery for the settlement of disputes.

*Organization.* The Assembly, consisting of representatives from all member states, is the supreme organ. The 36-member Council, elected by the Assembly, includes the four largest importers or consumers of seabed minerals, four largest investors in seabed minerals, four major exporters of the same, six developing countries representing special interests and 18 members from all the geographical regions. The Council is the executive organ of the Authority. There are also two subsidiary bodies: the Legal and Technical Commission (currently 24 experts) and the Finance Committee (currently 15 experts). The Secretariat serves all the bodies of the Authority and under the 1994 Agreement is performing functions of the Enterprise (until such time as it starts to operate independently of the Secretariat). The Enterprise is the organ through which the ISA carries out deep seabed activities directly or through joint ventures.

*Activities.* In July 2000 the ISA adopted the Regulations for Prospecting and Exploration for Polymetallic Nodules in the Area. Pursuant thereto, it signed exploration contracts with eight contractors who have submitted plans of work for deep seabed exploration. These are: Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (IFREMER) and Association Française pour l'Etude de la Recherche des Nodules (AFERNOD), France; Deep Ocean Resources Development Co. Ltd (DORD), Japan; State Enterprise Yuzhmoregeologiya, Russian Federation; China Ocean Minerals Research and Development Association (COMRA); Interoceanmetal Joint Organization (IOM), a consortium sponsored by Bulgaria, Cuba, Czech Republic, Poland, Russia and Slovakia; the government of the Republic of Korea; the Republic of India; and the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources, Germany.

Workshops are held on a range of topics, normally once a year. In the past these have included: environmental management needs for exploration and exploitation of deep seabed minerals; a standardized system of data interpretation; and prospects for international collaboration in marine environmental research.

*Headquarters:* 14–20 Port Royal St., Kingston, Jamaica.  
*Website:* <http://www.isa.org.jm>  
*Secretary-General:* Michael W. Lodge (United Kingdom).

*Publications.* *Handbook 2013.—Selected Decisions and Documents from the Authority's Sessions.—various others.*

---

## International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO)

Founded in 1964 as Intelsat, the organization was the world's first commercial communications satellite operator. Today, with capacity on a fleet of geostationary satellites and expanding terrestrial network assets, Intelsat continues to provide connectivity for telephony, corporate network, broadcast and internet services.

*Organization.* In 2001 the member states of the organization implemented restructuring by transferring certain assets to Intelsat Ltd, a new commercial company under the supervision of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization, now known as ITSO. In 2009 Intelsat Ltd moved its corporate headquarters to Luxembourg and became Intelsat S.A. ITSO's mission is to ensure that Intelsat provides public telecommunications services, including voice, data and video, on a global and non-discriminatory basis. The governing body of ITSO is the Assembly of Parties, which normally meets every other year. The Executive Organ is headed by the Director-General and is responsible to the Assembly of Parties. The Director-General

supervises and monitors Intelsat's provision of public telecommunications services. There were 149 member countries in Feb. 2017.

*Headquarters:* 4400 Jenifer St., NW, Suite 332, Washington, D.C., 20015, USA.

*Website:* <http://www.itso.int>

*Director-General:* José Manuel Toscano (Portugal).

---

## International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

*Origin.* Founded in Nov. 2006, the ITUC was formed through a unification process that included the merger of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the World Confederation of Labour (WCL) with the addition of several national centres that had not been affiliated with either organization. The WCL was established in 1920 as the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions, but went briefly out of existence in 1940 owing to the suppression of affiliated unions by the Nazi and Fascist regimes. It reconstituted in 1945 and became the WCL in 1968. The founding congress of the ICFTU took place in London in Dec. 1949 following the withdrawal of some Western trade unions from the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), which was founded in 1945 but had come under Communist control.

In Feb. 2017 the ITUC represented 181m. members of 340 affiliates in 163 countries and territories.

*Aims.* The ITUC aims to defend and promote the rights of workers, particularly the right to trade union organization and collective bargaining; to combat discrimination at work and in society; to ensure that social concerns are put at the centre of global economic, trade and finance policies; to support young people's rights at work; and to promote the involvement of women in trade unions. Its main priorities are: Count Us In!; Countries at Risk; Domestic Workers; Global Coherence; Global Governance of Migration; and Organising.

*Organization.* The Congress meets every four years to set policies and to elect the General Secretary and the General Council, composed of 70 members, which is the main decision-making body between congresses. The President and Deputy Presidents are appointed by the General Council. The Founding Congress was held in Vienna in Nov. 2006. Its second Congress was held in 2010 in Vancouver and its third in Berlin in 2014. Its fourth Congress is scheduled to take place in Copenhagen in 2018.

The ITUC has regional organizations for Africa, the Americas, the Arab countries, Asia-Pacific and Europe. It has offices that deal with the International Labour Organization (Geneva), the United Nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (Washington, D.C.) and the International Maritime Organization (London). There are also offices in Moscow and Sarajevo.

The ITUC is a member of the Council of Global Unions, which was created in 2006 as a tool for structured co-operation and co-ordination.

*Headquarters:* Bd du Roi Albert II, N°5, bte 1, B-1210 Brussels, Belgium.

*Website:* <http://www.ituc-csi.org>

*Email:* [info@ituc-cso.org](mailto:info@ituc-cso.org)

*President:* João Antonio Felício (Brazil).

*General Secretary:* Sharan Burrow (Australia).

## International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), founded in Oct. 1996 and based in Hamburg, adjudicates on disputes relating to the interpretation and application of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The Convention gives the Tribunal jurisdiction to resolve a variety of international law of the sea disputes such as the delimitation of maritime zones, fisheries, navigation and the protection of the marine environment. Its Seabed Disputes Chamber has compulsory jurisdiction to resolve disputes amongst States, the International Seabed Authority, companies and private individuals, arising out of the exploitation of the deep seabed. The Tribunal also has compulsory jurisdiction in certain instances to protect the rights of parties to a dispute or to prevent serious harm to the marine environment, and over the prompt release of arrested vessels and their crews upon the deposit of a security. The Tribunal is composed of 21 judges, elected by signatories from five world regional blocs: five each from Africa and Asia; four from Western Europe and other States; four from Latin America and the Caribbean; and three from Eastern Europe. The judges serve a term of nine years, with one third of the judges' terms expiring every three years.

*Headquarters:* Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1, 22609 Hamburg, Germany.

*Website:* <http://www.itlos.org>

*Email:* [itlos@itlos.org](mailto:itlos@itlos.org)

*Registrar:* Philippe Gautier (Belgium).

---

## International Union Against Cancer (UICC)

Founded in 1933, the UICC is an international non-governmental association of 775 member organizations in 156 countries.

*Objectives.* The UICC is the only non-governmental organization dedicated exclusively to the global control of cancer. Its objectives are to advance scientific and medical knowledge in research, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of cancer, and to promote all other aspects of the campaign against cancer throughout the world. Particular emphasis is placed on professional and public education.

*Membership.* The UICC is made up of voluntary cancer leagues, patient organizations, associations and societies as well as cancer research and treatment centres and, in some countries, ministries of health.

*Activities.* The UICC creates and carries out programmes around the world in collaboration with several hundred volunteer experts, most of whom are professionally active in UICC member organizations. It promotes co-operation between cancer organizations, researchers, scientists, health professionals and cancer experts, with a focus in four key areas: building and enhancing cancer control capacity, tobacco control, population-based cancer prevention and control, and transfer of cancer knowledge and dissemination. The next UICC World Cancer Congress is scheduled to take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in Oct. 2018.

*Address:* 62 route de Frontenex, CH-1207 Geneva, Switzerland.

*Website:* <http://www.uicc.org>

*Email:* [info@uicc.org](mailto:info@uicc.org)

*President:* Tezer Kutluk (Turkey).

*Chief Executive Officer:* Cary Adams (UK).