

Personal

Dr. Pierre Levy
Assistant Director
Ocean Economics and
Technology Office
UNITED NATIONS
1. UN Plaza
New York 10017 N.Y.
U S A

File



17.8.1978

Pacem in Maribus

International Ocean Institute
University of Malta
Msida, Malta

Dear Dr. Levy,

I refer to your letter to Mrs. Elisabeth Mann Borgese concerning the Training Programme in the Management and Exploitation of the Resources of the Sea Bed beyond the Limits of National Sovereignty proposed by this Institute. As director of the project, I was extremely pleased to learn that you felt that your office should contemplate a substantive contribution to it.

To come directly to the main point of this letter: during my meetings in Europe during the last six months it has become increasingly clear that if the programme is to succeed in its aim, which is to train high level officials from developing countries (otherwise the exercise is pointless) then it must now be promoted at the highest levels and especially at UNCLoS. This Institute cannot and should not be expected to run this type of programme alone.

The obvious thing to do is to try to organise a lobby for the project among delegations at UNCLoS in order, if possible, to obtain a formal endorsement of the programme from the Conference. I am therefore enclosing a short paper on the programme and an outline of a course on manganese nodules as an indication of what can be done. These could be circulated among delegations most likely to give the project consideration and support.

Furthermore I am willing to come to New York this september in order to discuss the launching of the programme with delegates and other interested organisations. Naturally I would particularly wish to meet your office.

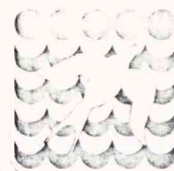
I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Roger Vella Bonavita
Director Training Programme

Personal

Mrs. Elisabeth Mann Borgese
c/o Permanent Austrian Mission
to the UN
1. UN Plaza
New York 10017 (N.Y.)
U S A



Pacem in Maribus

Aachen, 17th Aug. 1978

Dear Elisabeth,

I am writing from Aachen before going on to UNIDO in Vienna. On my return to Malta I will write a full report on all the discussions I have held. Jan Van Ettinger has passed on your messages. I hope the 40,000 \$ US will soon be confirmed.

The enclosures are self explanatory but I should say something about them. You will recall that in Zürich it was agreed that I would write a short raison d'être of the Training Programme for circulation at UNCLoS and that I should send it to you first. The need to push the programme at UNCLoS has been impressed on me very forcibly by Franz Diederich here in Aachen and by my experiences in Geneva. It would be splendid if Dr. Pierre Levy would give the programme assistance and moral support at UNCLoS. He has stressed to Diederich the urgent need to improve the flow of information on sea bed matters to the developing world and he has written to you enthusiastically supporting the programme.

Diederich has also stressed the necessity of at least somebody involved in the programme going to New York and doing some lobbying, since only personal contact will make things move and we need to move fast. I am reluctant to spend more money on travelling even though I have allowed for a reserve of 1 000 \$ US in the budget for the first six months. However, I think the trip is necessary and if more than one person goes all the better. I say this in the light of my discussions at UNEP and with UNCTAD. Neither were ready to accept an invitation to the workshop and I fear that UNIDO will adopt a similar attitude. If UNESCO also let us down, then we will be in very serious difficulties. These organisations need to be pushed and we must go to UNCLoS with the courage of our convictions and make our problems the problems of UNCLoS.

In view of the importance of the matter I think that I must speak to you over the telephone as soon as I get back to Malta and go through the mail which will have accumulated there. I would therefore be most grateful if you would send me a cable at IOI to let me know at what number I can contact you and what time or times would be most convenient for you.

Judith sends her best wishes from a very wet England.

Yours,

International Ocean Institute
The University of Malta • Msida, Malta

with Kuchen and others

17 August 1978



Pacem in Maribus

The Management and Exploitation of the Resources of the Sea Bed

Key issues at UNCLoS are the management and exploitation of the resources of the sea bed beyond the limits of national sovereignty. Manganese nodules are, currently, the most important of these resources.

New technologies are being developed to exploit this resource. However, outside the organisations and institutions directly involved, few are really competent in the complex issues and problems related to the establishment and administration of a manganese nodule industry. Consequently, there is no consensus on the scale of the likely return on the massive investment in research, development and plant for nodule mining and processing.

Predictably, less developed countries fear that the nodules will be exploited mainly for the benefit of those possessing technology and capital, while the latter argue that far too much is being expected of deep sea mining.

The lack of up to date and generally understood data and information about nodule exploitation is to a great extent responsible for the lack of progress at UNCLoS towards the establishment of an international regime for the sea bed as envisaged in the UN declaration of principles governing the sea-bed and ocean floor in 1970.

The problem is symptomatic of the difficulties that are going to be encountered at all levels - national and international - whenever sea bed matters require negotiation and agreement.

There is, clearly, an urgent need to establish a high quality, intensive training programme to provide authoritative technical, scientific and economic information on specific problems and issues related to the sea bed. The programme should be aimed particularly at administrators, negotiators and policy makers in developing countries to assist them to participate fully in international bodies such as an International Sea bed Authority and to formulate correct national policies.

The International Ocean Institute at the University of Malta has studied the matter in depth and has laid the foundations for such a programme. The project is endorsed by the Government of Malta and, with support from the Swedish International Development Authority, The Institute has drawn up plans for a course on manganese nodule mining with the cooperation of

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a project to advance the organized of such a programme. The project is endorsed by the Gov. of Malta. The project is supported by the SIDA, International Ocean Institute

The University of Malta • Msida, Malta

The Institute is more prepared to work step by step

highly qualified academics at the Technical University of Aachen (Fed. Rep. Germany), The International Training Centre at Delft (Netherlands) and the Free University of Brussels (Belgium). A brief outline of the structure of the course is attached. The course would be repeated as necessary.

If the International Ocean Institute has correctly estimated the urgent need for such a programme, the matter should be taken up at the highest levels: by appropriate bodies in the UN and especially by UNCLoS. The relevance of the programme to the agenda of the first committee concerning the international regime and of the Third as regards the Transfer of Technology, both of which necessarily must be preceded by a transfer of knowledge, hardly needs to be stressed.

The organisation of the programme cannot and should not be the responsibility of the International Ocean Institute alone. It requires the involvement of one or more UN bodies not only for the necessary funding and input as regards participation and administration but also to give the programme the status and quality what will ensure that it attracts the appropriate participants.

Delegates at UNCLoS could consider how the programme should be best promoted: whether it should be formally endorsed by the Conference or by one of its Committees, and which of the UN bodies ought appropriately to be urged to participate in the programme.

As a further positive step towards the realisation of the programme, the Institute is organising a workshop in Malta next November at which those involved will plan the courses and launch the programme. The first course would be held in March or April of 1979.



Roger Vella Bonavita
Director IOI Training Programme

23 June 1978-

Dear Elisabeth

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 18 June and wish to inform you that I am very pleased to see that your efforts in organizing training in matters relating to seabed mining for developing countries personnel appear to be successful.

We have always thought that it is something that should be done, and I certainly would welcome the close association of our office in such an endeavour. As you know, the office has a unique competence in various aspects of seabed mineral development, and I assume that we may indeed be in a position to make a substantive contribution.

In any event, I welcome the opportunity to discuss any possible cooperation in this field when you will be in New York in August.

Looking forward to seeing you, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Jean Pierre Levy
Acting-Assistant-Director
Ocean Economics and Technology Office

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POSTAL ADDRESS—ADRESSE POSTALE UNITED NATIONS, N. Y. 10017
CABLE ADDRESS—ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE UNATIONS NEWYORK

REFERENCE: EC 312 (20)

9 February 1977

~~3370~~
~~10 FEB 1977~~
~~NRB 1.354 IV Marine Technology~~

Dear Mr. Engström,

We have received your response to our questionnaire relating to marine technology of 2 April 1976 through the Swedish Mission to the United Nations. Many thanks for the very useful material you supplied. We are in the process of preparing a guide on marine technological capabilities in various countries. The information contained in the booklet on "Marine Technology in Sweden" will serve as a model for such a guide.

We were very pleased to note that SIDA would be interested in sponsoring a seminar in the field of marine technology. We would like to submit the following ideas for your consideration. Two subjects are on our list of proposed seminars. The first one relates to technology of sea-bed mining of manganese nodules. While very few developing countries will be in a position to engage in deep sea-bed mining, the dissemination of information and knowledge regarding nodule mining is needed even at this stage. On the basis of recent developments, an international exploitation system is to be emerged sooner or later. This system would, no doubt, require the participation of developed as well as developing countries. Unless the developing countries have adequate knowledge of sea-bed mining, it is impossible to consider meaningful participation or workable relationship. On the contrary, inadequate knowledge could only hamper a viable international system. There is, therefore, an urgent need to familiarize personnel from developing countries who are likely to be involved in the decision-making of such an international exploitation system. It is for this reason that we propose this subject for your consideration. This seminar would cover basically the technological aspects of nodule mining: e.g. formation, composition and distribution of ferromanganese deposits, nodule mining, and processing technology etc.

Mr. Jan Engström
Industrial Finance Section
SIDA
Birger Jarlsgatan 61
S 105 25 Stockholm, Sweden

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UNITED NATIONS



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- 2 -

Another possible subject would be near-shore mining (e.g. sand and gravel). It would not be a technical seminar as it would be one designed for administrators, planners, or decision-makers from developing countries who are likely to be involved in the activities of offshore mining. The seminar would inform them of all the technical aspects which must be taken into account in order to ensure efficient management of offshore mining.

We have discussed informally these ideas with a number of delegations in New York. It appears that Iran, Mexico and Sri Lanka are interested in hosting such a seminar and in providing the necessary local facilities if SIDA would sponsor and finance the seminar. Should you be interested in any of these proposals, we are prepared to submit for your consideration a detailed work plan. In view of our Office's commitment, any of the seminar would have to be scheduled sometime after 1979.

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jean-Pierre Lévy'.

Jean-Pierre Lévy
Chief

Ocean Economics and Technology Office

Please Reply to:

Box 4716
Santa Barbara, California 93103



Pacem in Maribus

June 18, 1978.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Levy
Ocean Economics and Technology Office
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Jean-Pierre:

When we met in New York, I gave you a copy of our seabed-mining training project. We have been discussing this with SIDA, and with a number of other entities. It now appears that we have sufficient support so we can get started. We are planning to organize a workshop late this fall, of about 30 participants (experts from industrialized countries, Third-World leaders, representatives of UNIDO, IOC, UNEP, ILO and, hopefully, yourself.

Of course we always wanted your participation in this project, but now we are particularly anxious to have you with us. Dr. Michanek of SIDA just sent me copy of a letter you wrote to Mr. Engström on 9 Februarz 1977. In this letter you wrote:

While very few developing countries will be in a position to engage in deep sea-bed mining, the dissemination of information and knowledge regarding nodule mining is needed even at this stage. On the basis of recent developments, an international exploitation system is to be emerged sooner or later. This system would, no doubt, require the participation of developed as well as developing countries. Unless the developing countries have adequate knowledge of seabed mining, it is impossible to consider meaningful participation or workable relationship. On the contrary, inadequate knowledge could only hamper a viable international system. There is, therefore, an urgent need to familiarize personnel from developing countries who are likelz to be involved in the decision-making of such an international exploitation system.

Nothing could express the gist of our project more perfectly. The only difference in our approach would seem that ours is more comprehensive and interdisciplinary. I would think that, together with your Office, UNIDO, UNEP, IOC, and ILO should be co-involved; I would also think that more than a few seminars are needed. What we have in mind is a two-year programme, consisting of (a) an interdisciplinary "crash course" of 2-3 months on the technology, ecology, geology, economy, metallurgy

Dr. Jean-Pierre Levy

June 18, 1978.

marketing, managing, administration, legal and political aspects of seabed mining, followed by a 1-2 year specialized training in specialized Institutes, such as, e.g., the University of Aachen where they have a splendid programme in nodule mining technology, processing, substitutions, economy, and also in cooperation with the Industry itself: e.g., the A.M.R. would be ready to take trainees aboard the "Sonne" for periods of 2-3 months.

And something like this is needed whether we agree this August on a Seabed Authority or not.

So I am looking forward to discussing this whole matter with you in August in New York.

I wonder how you assess the new stance of the Industry, as it results from the latest issue of Ocean Science News.

All the best,

Yours cordially,

until July 26:

Elisabeth Mann Borgese
Alte Landstrasse 39
Kilchberg/Zurich
Switzerland.

SIDA

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Mr Jean-Pierre Lévy, Chief
Ocean Economics and Technology Office
United Nations, N Y 10017
New York
USA

Mottagarens ref
EC 312 (20)

Ärende

Seminars on Marine Technology

SIDA ref/Dossier/Ink dnr

~~1.300~~ Marine Technology

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Dear Mr Lévy,

We have received your letter of February 9th 1977 regarding seminars on technology of sea-bed mining and near-shore mining.

We are pleased to know that you find our contribution to the material you need for a booklet on Marine Technology useful. Although we find your outline of ideas for seminars too scarce to judge if Sweden will be able to contribute to the seminars we find the topic very interesting in principle. For our further consideration it should be of importance if you would supply us with material available e g reports on present conditions and needs in this field as well as a more elaborated work plan for the proposed seminars.

Looking forward to hearing from you again in this matter.

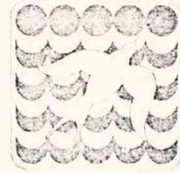
Yours sincerely



Gunilla Wickbom
Programme Officer

Please Reply to:

Box 4716
Santa Barbara, California 93103



Pacem in Maribus

February 24, 1978

M. Jean-Pierre Levy
Chief
Ocean Economics and Technology
Office
United Nations Secretariat
New York, N.Y. 10017

Dear Jean-Pierre,

I hope you have recovered from the inter-session. As you see, I have.

I have decided to try to apply to the Ford Foundation and I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Peter Ruof, Program Officer. If you could help, it would certainly be appreciated.

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Cordially yours,

Elisabeth Mann Borgese
Chairman, Planning Council

Encl.