



Nii Allotey Odunton, Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority, Kingston, Jamaica

H. E. Mr. Nii Allotey Odunton of Ghana was elected Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority on 4 June 2008. Mr. Odunton has over twenty years experience in the International Civil Service with responsibility in marine resource policy formulation, particularly marine mineral resources.

Prior to joining the International Seabed Authority in 1988, Mr. Odunton held several positions with the United Nations Department of International Economic and Social Affairs. He served as an advisor to the Minerals Commission of the Government of Ghana, assisting the government with expert advice on its national minerals policy. He has also assisted the International Centre for Ocean Development in Canada in formulating a training program on near shore minerals resource assessment. During his career with the United Nations and with the International Seabed Authority, he was responsible for a number of workshops that facilitated work on marine minerals in the international seabed area, including Manganese Nodules: Dimensions and Perspectives (1979), Standardization of Environmental Data and Information: Development of Guidelines (2001) and Mining Cobalt-Rich Ferromanganese Crusts and Polymetallic Sulphides deposits: Technological and Economic Considerations (2006).

Mr. Odunton is a member of the American Institute of Mining, Metallurgical and Petroleum Engineers (AIME) and the Ghana Institute of Engineers. He is a recipient of the African Scholarship Programme of American Universities Award (ASPAU) 1969 and 1969-1972); the Henry Krumb Research Fellow (1972) and the Henry Krumb Fellow.