

Intervention on Report of the Chair of the Legal and Technical Commission on the work of the Commission at the first part of its twenty-sixth session ISBA/26/C/12, Add1 and Add2

Thank you Mr president.

Like other delegations before us - including for example Netherlands - we look forward to a timely report back from the LTC on the two REMP proposals that were submitted to them for review and recommendation by Germany, Netherlands and Costa Rica via the Council meeting in February 2020.

We further want to state that transparency during the assessment of EIS is essential. We would appreciate if all commentaries submitted by stakeholders are made publicly available on the ISA webpage and are considered by the LTC in a transparent way.

DOSI has provided a commentary on NORIs EIS. The aim of an EIS is to demonstrate that the proposed work considers potential environmental impacts and shows how different measures may mitigate such impacts. One vital aspect of this exercise is an understanding of the natural state of the environment; that is, the baseline information. NORI's EIS showed a severe lack of baseline information. While many data have been collected recently (2019-2021), there has not been time to analyse this information, and the EIS therefore repeatedly states that this information is forthcoming. This means that the current EIS is not fit for its purpose.

We look forward to the LTC's report in this regard.

Thank you Mr president