

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 27<sup>TH</sup> SESSION:  
COUNCIL - PART I**

***Informal Working Group - Environment***

*Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete and send to [council2022@isa.org.jm](mailto:council2022@isa.org.jm).*

**1. Name(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:**

Belgium

**2. Please indicate the relevant provision to which the textual proposal refers.**

Annex IV Environmental Impact Statement

**3. Kindly provide the proposed amendments to the regulation or standard or guideline in the text box below, using the “track changes” function in Microsoft Word. Please only reproduce the parts of the text that are being amended or deleted.**

**2. Template for Environmental Impact Statement**

The ~~recommended~~ format for an Environmental Impact Statement is outlined below. It is intended to provide the International Seabed Authority, its member States and other stakeholders with unambiguous documentation of the potential Environmental Effects on which the Authority can base its assessment, and any subsequent approval that may be granted. Further detail for each section is provided following the overview.

The document is a template only, ~~and is not intended to be prescriptive but rather to guide the format and general content of an Environmental Impact Statement.~~ It does not provide details of methodology or thresholds that may be resource- and site- specific. These methodologies and thresholds may be developed as Standards and Guidelines to support the regulations.

**4. Please indicate the rationale for the proposal. [150 word limit]**

Belgium is convinced that this template should be mandatory. It is designed with sufficient flexibility to accommodate all projects eligible for an application for an Exploitation contract. And the evaluation of and decision on an application will benefit from the prescriptive and comparable nature of the format.