

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 27TH SESSION:
COUNCIL - PART II**

Informal Working Group -Environment

Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete.

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

China

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

Regulation 12

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.

1. The Commission shall examine applications in the order in which they are received by the Secretary-General. Should there be more than one application for the same area and same Resource category, the Commission shall make recommendations to the Council on whether the applicant has preference and priority in accordance with Article 10 of Annex III to the Convention.

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4. In considering the proposed Plan of Work, the Commission shall ~~shall~~ may take into account:

(a) ~~Any~~ Relevant reports from the Secretary-General;

(b) Any advice or reports sought by the Commission or the Secretary-General from independent competent persons in respect of the ~~application~~ environmental plan/environmental matters to verify, clarify or substantiate the information provided, methodology used or conclusions drawn by an applicant;

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

On paragraph 4, since the Commission shall have full discretion in reviewing the proposed Plan of Work, it is suggested that the wording “the Commission shall” be replaced by “the Commission may”. Furthermore, the scope of “any reports from the Secretary-General” mentioned in subparagraph (a) is too broad, and it is suggested to be replaced by “relevant reports of the Secretary-General”.

According to the Convention, matters upon which independent experts or independent competent persons may advise are mainly confined to environmental issues. It is suggested that the word “application” in respect of which advice or reports can be sought from independent competent persons in paragraph 4 (b) be replaced by “environmental plan” or “environmental matters”.