

**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:**

Canada

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

Draft Standards and Guidelines for the preparation of Environmental Management and Monitoring Plans

**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. Title

Draft Guidelines for the establishment of baseline environmental data [for polymetallic nodule projects in the central and northwest Pacific and Indian Oceans.](#)

2. II. Purpose and Scope

(c) Data management, particularly as it relates to metadata needed to support data deposition [and sharing](#), and the reporting of environmental baselines [to inform the decision-making process](#).

3. A. Spatial and temporal variability

...replicate observations should be obtained to detect changes as a result of time ([e.g.](#) seasons, interannual variability)...

4. 17. Observations should be carried out at different and predetermined times of the year to cover seasonal changes in productivity, [reproduction](#), and hydrodynamic conditions.

5. (d) Turbulence: vertical turbulent mixing is a dominant factor in controlling the vertical flux of material in the water column [and while both wind-driven surface and](#) ~~while~~ bottom-enhanced turbulent mixing plays an important role in water mass transformation;

6. VI Biological Communities: A:

(c) Connectivity: understanding the genetic diversity, [source-sink dynamics, population dynamics and habitat connectivity, distribution pathways](#), biogeography, molecular connectivity patterns, habitat restrictiveness and endemism, and turnover is essential to determining the potential recovery following a disturbance;

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

1. Considering the bullet: 1. Introduction; 2; “These Guidelines focus primarily on deep-sea polymetallic nodules found in the central and NW Pacific and Indian Oceans. Some elements may not apply to all mineral types. Further iterations will be issued in the future to cover polymetallic seafloor massive sulphides and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts. Suggest changing the title to be more accurate and avoid future projects/applicants referring to or using the wrong documents.
2. Language included to encourage sharing of data from contractors for scope of decision making.
3. Increased scope of sampling and data acquisition
4. Please include “e.g.”, as it reads now the language is suggestive of a comprehensive list.
5. It is important to consider the reproductive timing, especially for rare, long lived, and habitat forming species in the area. For example, under the Canadian *Fisheries Act*, industrial projects have timing windows to protect eggs, juveniles, and/or spawning adults.
6. Wind-drive surface should be included in reference to water mass transformation.
7. Suggestion to include more factors that should be understood for connectivity.