

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 27TH 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.

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

China

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

Regulation 60

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.The Commission shall examine the final Closure Plan at its next meeting, provided that it has been circulated at least ~~30-60~~ Days in advance of the meeting, ~~bearing in mind article 165, paragraph 2(e), of the Convention.~~

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

The reference to “bearing in mind article 165, paragraph 2(e), of the Convention” implies that when the Commission examine the final Closure Plan, it needs to take into account the views of recognized experts. From the format aspect, since many Parts of the draft Exploitation Regulations involve the examination by the Commission of relevant documents submitted by the contractors, if such references are included in all the relevant regulations, the text of the Exploitation Regulations will be too lengthy and redundant. From the essence aspect, as stated by the Commission in document ISBA/25/C/18, “[t]he Commission recognized the merit of engaging with external experts in supplementing its work and expertise, but considered that such engagements should be discretionary and not mandatory...”. Therefore, it is recommended to delete it.