

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.

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

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

Executive summary, Part IV - ISBA/27/C/IWG/ENV/CRP.1

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.

Executive summary

One of the main objectives of the executive summary is to provide an overview of the project and a summary of the content of the Environmental Impact Statement for non-technical readers. Information provided in the executive summary should include:

- (a) A description of the proposed development and its objectives;
- (b) Economic, financial and other benefits to be derived from the project;
- (c) Anticipated impacts of the activity including but not limited to physicochemical, biological, socioeconomic) as well as the expected recovery rate of the marine environment;
- (d) Mitigation measures to minimize environmental impacts;
- (e) Linkages with the Authority’s global environmental policy and strategy and the applicable regional environmental management plan and the development of the Environmental Monitoring and Management Plan; and
- (f) Consultation undertaken with other parties.

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

- 1- The list must be indicative to include any kind of impacts or effects in the future. Moreover, it is important to include the expected recovery rate for the marine environment.

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Annex IV - 1, Part IV - ISBA/27/C/IWG/ENV/CRP.1

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Annex IV Environmental Impact Statement

1. Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement The Environmental Impact Statement prepared under these regulations and the present annex shall:

(a) Be prepared in plain language and in an official language of the Authority together with an official English-language version, where applicable;

(b) Provide information, in accordance with the relevant regulations, Standards and Guidelines and the relevant regional environmental management plan, corresponding to the scale and potential magnitude of the activities, to assess the likely Environmental Effects of the proposed activities. Such effects shall be discussed in proportion to their significance. Where an applicant considers an effect to be of no significance, there should be sufficient information to substantiate such conclusion, or a brief discussion as to why further research is not warranted; and

...

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

1- The EIS has to be guided by the REMP

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Annex IV -2, Part IV - ISBA/27/C/IWG/ENV/CRP.1

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2. Policy, legal and administrative context

...

2.2 Other applicable legislation, policies and regulations

Outline any other legislation, policies or regulations that do not necessarily apply specifically to seabed mining or the environment, but may be relevant to the proposal (e.g., shipping regulations, maritime declarations, marine scientific research, climate change policies, Sustainable Development Goals). This section should also refer to national regulations and laws that relate to the effects of Exploitation activities on coastal States, or other places where components of Exploitation (e.g., processing) could occur and how the mining activity will comply with them.

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

1- Contractors must explain the measures they are going to take to comply with.

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Annex IV - 3, Part IV - ISBA/27/C/IWG/ENV/CRP.1

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3.1 Project area definition

3.1.1 Location

Include coordinates of the project area, detailed location maps (drawn to scale), a layout of the site and the locations of impact reference zones and preservation reference zones including any area based management tools, and the identification of adjacent ISA contract areas and coastal states.

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

1- Protected areas that are close to the project area should be taken into account. Additionally, awareness of other mining areas is key when measuring cumulative impacts. Costa Rica also considers that the coastal states should be taken into account so that possible transboundary impacts are taken into contemplated.

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Annex IV - 4, Part IV - ISBA/27/C/IWG/ENV/CRP.1

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4. Description of the existing physicochemical environment

Give a detailed account of knowledge of the environmental conditions at the [mine-site impact area](#), which should include information from a thorough literature review as well as from on-site studies. The Guidelines on baseline data collection shall guide the drafting of this section by providing information on the minimum amount of detail required for an acceptable baseline description. The account will provide the baseline description of the geological and oceanographic conditions against which impacts will be measured and assessed. The detail in this section is expected to be based on a prior environmental risk assessment that will have identified the main impacts, and thus the elements that need to be emphasized in the environmental impact assessment.

...

4.2 Regional overview

Describe the general [baseline](#) environmental conditions of the site [and impact area](#), including, [but not limited](#), -the geological and oceanographic setting within a broader regional context and refer to the applicable Regional Environmental Management Plan. This should be brief section that includes a map. A more detailed site-specific [and impact area](#) description will be provided in accordance with the sections below

...

4.6 Physical oceanographic setting¹

Provide a [baseline](#) description of oceanographic aspects such as currents, oceanographic fronts, eddies, particle flux and waves. Seasonal variability is an important element. Detail is required on the regional setting, as well as the specific site, and should include changes in physical conditions and processes according to depth and horizontal distance from the proposed mine site [and impact area](#) (near-field, far-field).

4.9 Natural hazards

Provide a description of applicable potential natural hazards for the site, including volcanism, seismic activity, cyclone/hurricane trends, tsunamis, [climate related variability and ocean acidification](#), etc.

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

- 1- Not only the mining site should be covered, but the entire site where can be impacts. Climate change and acidification are added as those are some of the most serious risks facing the ocean that also become cumulative effects.

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11. Environmental management, monitoring and reporting.

...

11.1 Organizational structure and responsibilities

This section should show how the Contractor’s environmental team fits into its overall organizational structure. Responsibilities and professional qualifications of key personnel should be outlined

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

1- the qualifications of the environmental time shall be public, to encourage contractors to hire truly qualified persons who can fulfil the task of ensuring the effective protection of the marine environment.

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15. Study team.

Outline the people involved in carrying out the environmental impact assessment studies and in writing the Environmental Impact Statement. If independent scientists or other experts were involved in any of the work, they should be listed. The names, occupational qualifications and their role in the generation of the Environmental Impact Statement of such people should also be included. Any conflict of interest must be identified, reported and managed.

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

1- Avoidance of conflict of interest for those working in the environmental impact statement is crucial. there should be a mechanism to identify such conflicts, manage them and report them.