

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.

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

Finland

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

Annex IV

**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.**

**5.4 Biological environment**

Address diversity, abundance, biomass, community-level analyses, connectivity, trophic relationships, resilience, ecosystem function as well as spatial and temporal variability. Any work on ecosystem models and appropriate ecosystem indicators, etc., should also be presented here. This section should span the size range from megafauna to microbial communities.

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**5.4.3 Benthic**

Describe the benthic invertebrate and fish communities, including infauna, epifauna and demersal fish, up to an altitude of 50 metres above the sea floor. This should include considerations of species richness, biodiversity, faunal densities, community structures and connectivity, etc. Ecosystem functions, such as Bbioturbation etc. should also be covered in this section. The description should also evaluate the temporal and spatial variability in distribution and composition.

**5.4.4 Ecosystem/community-level description**

Summarize existing community or ecosystem studies that integrate elements of the above sections. The summary should consider trophic relationships, ecosystem functioning, benthic-pelagic couplings, early life-history stages, recruitment and behavioural information.

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**8.5 Benthic**

Description of the potential effect on benthic invertebrate and fish communities, including infauna, epifauna and demersal fish, up to an altitude of 50 metres above the sea floor.

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

5.4: should include also spatial variation to be consistent with other parts.

5.4.3: Epifaunal communities need to be mentioned as they will be heavily impacted from nodule extraction. We also consider that other ecosystem functions than bioturbation should be included and propose a text revision to cover for that.

5.4.4: The current description is very restricted and will not cover important ecosystem level processes. We propose additional text to be added.