

**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:

Federal Republic of Germany

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

Draft Regulation 44

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.

**Regulation 44
General obligations**

1. The Authority, sponsoring States, the Enterprise and Contractors shall each, within their respective competence, adopt, plan, implement and modify measures necessary for ensuring effective protection of the Marine Environment, ~~including [rare or fragile ecosystems as well as the habitat of depleted, threatened or endangered species] and other forms of marine life,~~ from harmful effects ~~[directly resulting from Exploitation activities in the Area or from shipboard dewatering immediately above a mine site of minerals derived from that mine site,] [which may arise from activities in the Area],~~ in accordance with the Rules of the Authority, Guidelines referred to in regulation 45 and the applicable Regional Environment Management Environmental Plan. To this end:

(a) In adopting and keeping under periodic review rules, regulations and procedures, as well as the Standards and Guidelines in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement, the Authority shall:

(i) Apply the precautionary ~~[approach]~~ [principle], as reflected in principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the ecosystem-based management approach to the assessment and management of risk of harm to the Marine Environment from Exploitation in the Area;

(ii) Apply the Best Available Techniques and Best Environmental Practices;

(iii) Integrate Best Available Scientific Evidence in decision-making, including all risk assessments and management undertaken in connection with environmental assessments, and the management and response measures taken under or in accordance with Best Environmental Practices; and

(iv) Ensure accountability and transparency in the assessment, evaluation and management of Environmental Effects and risks from Exploitation in the Area, including through Stakeholder participation and the timely public release of relevant environmental data and information at regular intervals and in an accessible format through the Authority's website.

(iv)bis Take into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, endeavour to promote practices whereby those engaged in exploitation activities bear the cost of meeting the pollution prevention and control requirements for the authorized activities, having due regard to the public interest.

(v)ter Ensure to minimize the direct or indirect~~ly~~ implementing the regulations, act so as not to transfer, directly or indirectly, of damage or the likelihood of damage from one part of the environment to another or the transformation one type of pollution into another.

(b) In taking all necessary measures to ensure that the Contractor carries out Exploitation in the Area in conformity with the terms of its contract and its obligations under the- Rules of the Authority related to the effective protection for the Marine Environment from harmful effects, the Sponsoring State shall assist the Authority to implement, *mutatis mutandis*, the measures set out under paragraph (a)(i) to (iv) above.

(c) In taking necessary measures to prevent, reduce and control pollution and other hazards to the Marine Environment , including the coastline, and of interference with the ecological balance of the Marine Environment arising from Exploitation in the Area, the Enterprise and Contractors shall implement, *mutatis mutandis*, the measures set out under paragraph (a)(i) to (iii) above and demonstrate accountability and transparency in the assessment, evaluation and management of Environmental Effects and risks from Exploitation in the Area, including through Stakeholder participation and the timely public release of environmental data and information on their respective activities at regular intervals and in an accessible format. In so doing, the Enterprise and Contractors shall apply a priority order to avoid, minimize, mitigate, and remediate harm to the marine environment: as well as and adapt the necessary measures according to newly emerged obtained information and data.

2. In adopting laws and regulations, in accordance with the Convention, to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from Exploitation in the Area undertaken by vessels, installations, structures and other devices flying their flag or of their registry or operating under their authority, as the case may be, States shall implement, *mutatis mutandis*, the measures set out under paragraph 1(a)(i) to (iv) above.~~3. The Legal and Technical Commission shall make recommendations on the implementation of paragraphs 1 and 2-ab~~

3. No regulation in this Part shall be interpreted as preventing sponsoring States, the Enterprise and Contractors from taking, individually or jointly, more stringent measures in accordance with international law with respect to the prevention, reduction and where practicable elimination of detrimental effects on the marine environment.

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

We support the amendments inserted by the Facilitator, if not indicated otherwise. In addition, we propose a few amendments, also in tracked changes. In Para 1a) vter we suggest slight rewording for clarification. We propose an additional paragraph 3, aiming to clarify that the ISA sets minimum requirements only and that Contractors/Sponsoring states can always take more stringent measures. This addition can be seen as reiteration of Convention's Annex III Article 21 Paragraph 3. We regard it important also as general consideration under Part IV of the regulations.