Template for the review of the draft regional environmental management plan for the Area of the northern Mid-Atlantic Ridge with a focus on polymetallic sulphide deposits

Please use the review template below when providing comments. Line and page numbers have been provided in the draft REMP. Please use these as a reference as illustrated in the table below.

TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS

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General Comments

When preparing the general comments, stakeholders are invited to consider the following:

- 1) The structure and layout of the draft REMP.
- 2) The level of detail of the draft REMP, while avoiding being too prescriptive.
- 3) The goals and objectives in the draft REMP in providing for long-term, effective protection of the marine environment in the Area of the northern Mid-Atlantic Ridge.
- 4) The management measures and their ability to achieve the goals and objectives in the draft REMP.

This draft lacks the quantitative procedural recommendations for smoother functioning of the project and guidance for mitigation to the contractors. Hence, a BESG sustainability Reporting procedure should be adapted for streamlining the mining/exploration activities of the region and patented technologies should be developed simultaneously for their implementation. Instead of adding descriptive paragraphs to present environmental management plan of the draft, a scientific approach towards standardization and BESG scoring criteria for sustainability study is useful not only for this project but also other similar projects. Hence a comprehensive approach is the need of the hour and ISA should embark on this ambition as early as possible.

Specific Comments		
Page	Line	Comment