

**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:

Japan

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

Regulation 48bis Test Mining

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.

General comment.

According to Recommendations for the guidance of contractors for the assessment of the possible environmental impacts arising from exploration for marine minerals in the Area (ISBA/25/LTC/6/Rev.1), test-mining is included in paragraph 33, B. Activities requiring environmental impact assessment during exploration. It is understood that an environmental impact statement, which is to be included in an application for approval of a Plan of Work for exploitation, is prepared based on environmental impact assessment and environmental impact assessment is implemented when a test-mining is conducted during exploration. It is therefore considered that test-mining is included in the exploration regulations and relevant documents. If test-mining is to be included in the exploitation regulations, it is recommended to clarify difference from the test-mining during exploration. Japan supports implementation of workshop or webinar regarding test-mining proposed by Germany.

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

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