

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:

Federated States of Micronesia

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

Annex IV: Section 6 (Title, chapeau, section 6.2.5bis, section 6.2.6, and section 6.4)

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.

TITLE: Description of the existing socioeconomic and sociocultural environment

This section should describe the socioeconomic and sociocultural aspects of the project.

...

6.2.5bis Sociocultural uses

List the sociocultural uses of the project area (e.g., traditional navigation routes, migratory paths of culturally significant marine species, sacred sites and waters associated with ritual or ceremonial activities of Indigenous Peoples and local communities)

6.2.6

List other uses of the project area that are not related to the above (e.g., other mineral exploration, exploitation projects, ~~traditional navigation~~)

...

6.4 Summary of existing socioeconomic and sociocultural environment.

Summarize key findings regarding the [socioeconomic and](#) sociocultural environment. It is envisaged that this section will be up to a page in length, and more extensive than the key messages.

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

Section 6 of the EIS template deals with not just socioeconomic matters but also sociocultural elements, including the listing of sites of an archaeological or historical nature in section 6.3 as well as the new reference to traditional navigation in section 6.2.6. Also, the title of section 6.4 refers to the summary of the existing sociocultural environment. We propose amending the overall title for section 6, the chapeau/introduction of section 6, and the title and content of section 6.4 to reflect a broader view of section 6, to include both socioeconomic and sociocultural considerations. We also propose having a subsection devoted to sociocultural aspects of the project, which we propose as section 6.2.5bis, which is inspired in part by the work of the CBD in the description of EBSAs as well as the CBD's Akwe: Kon voluntary guidelines for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessments (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/akwe-brochure-en.pdf>). Consequently, we also propose deleting the reference to traditional navigation in section 6.2.6.

Our proposals for section 6 should be read in conjunction with our separate textual proposals for section 9 of this same EIS template.

For more information on sociocultural elements pertaining to the management of the high seas and the Area (including the work of the ISA as well as work contemplated under a future BBNJ instrument), please see the following:

Considering Indigenous Peoples and local communities in governance of the global ocean commons, by Marjo K. Vierros, et al, Marine Policy, Volume 119, September 2020, available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308597X19309212>.

The Necessity of Traditional Knowledge for Management of Deep-Seabed Mining, Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative Policy Brief, 2021, available at <https://www.dosi-project.org/wp-content/uploads/072-DOSI-Policy-brief-Traditional-Knowledge-for-Management-of-DSM-long-V11.pdf>.

Traditional knowledge and the BBNJ instrument, by Clement Y. Mulalap, et al, Marine Policy, Volume 122, December 2020, available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0308597X19308620>.

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Annex IV: Section 9 (Title, chapeau, section 9.2.1.5bis, and section 9.5)

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.

TITLE: Assessment of the impacts on the socioeconomic and sociocultural environment and proposed Mitigation

As in the preceding sections, provide a detailed description and evaluation of potential impacts of the operation to the socioeconomic and sociocultural components identified in section 6. This may need to consider effects that could happen during the construction/development (pre-commissioning), operational (including maintenance) and decommissioning phases, as well as the potential for accidental events. The preferred approach for this template is to include for each component a description of:

- (a) The nature and extent of any actual or potential impact, including cumulative impacts;
- (a)bis The methods used to determine impacts (including the assumptions of any impact modelling undertaken);
- (b) Measures that will be taken to avoid, remedy or mitigate such impacts; and
- (c) The unavoidable (residual) impacts that will remain.

...

9.2.1.5bis Sociocultural uses

A description of potential impacts and issues to be addressed pertaining to sociocultural uses of the area (e.g., traditional navigation routes, migratory paths of culturally significant marine species, sacred sites and waters associated with ritual or ceremonial

[activities of Indigenous Peoples and local communities\), along with proposed management measures and a description of residual impacts](#)

9.5 Summary of existing socioeconomic and sociocultural environment. A table may be a useful summary format. Potential cumulative effects should also be included

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

Per our textual proposals for section 6 of the EIS template in Annex IV, we support expanding the scope of section 9 of the same template to include references to sociocultural uses, impacts, and issues of the project area covered by the template, along with similar socioeconomic considerations. We thus propose tweaks to the title and chapeau of section 9 as well as the header of section 9.5, and we also propose a new section 9.2.1.5bis on sociocultural uses in line with a similar proposal of ours for a section 6.2.5bis of the EIS template, and as inspired in part by the work of the CBD in the description of EBSAs as well as the CBD's Akwe: Kon voluntary guidelines for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessments (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/akwe-brochure-en.pdf>).

For more information on sociocultural elements pertaining to the management of the high seas and the Area (including the work of the ISA as well as work contemplated under a future BBNJ instrument), please see the following:

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