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:

Pew Charitable Trusts

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

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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.

Proposed edits are in blue

2. An applicant or Contractor, as the case may be, shall prepare, or commission the preparation of, an Environmental Impact Statement in accordance with this regulation.

3. The Environmental Impact Statement shall be in the form prescribed by the Authority in annex IV to these regulations and shall be:

(a) Inclusive of a prior environmental risk assessment, preliminarily prepared during the environmental impact assessment scoping phase, and revisited and updated as the environmental impact assessment proceeds;

5. Where predictive models have been used to inform an environmental impact assessment:

(a) These shall be reviewed by competent independent experts, with the results provided to the Authority as annexures to the Environmental Impact Statement; and

(b) The monitoring programme proposed in the Environmental Impact Statement shall describe how predictions made by models will be validated.

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

Amendments on para 2 reflect that in some jurisdictions, a private applicant cannot itself prepare an EIA given their potential conflict of interest (and the applicant/contractor would also need to adhere to the national law requirements for the EIA)

Edits on para 3 (a) are to clarify the timing of when an environmental risk assessment should take place

New paragraph 5 is proposed - Given the scarcity of current knowledge about deep-sea environments and how they will be affected by deep-sea mining, EIAs are likely to rely to some extent on predictive modelling. Those methodologies should be verified, and that the accuracy of those models are checked, as new data comes in.