

**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:

United States

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.

1. The Contractor, through the Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan required under Regulation 48, shall observe, measure, evaluate and analyse, by recognized scientific methods, the risks or effects of pollution and other hazards to the marine environment of the mining operation following the approval of the Plan of Work. It shall keep under surveillance the effects of the mining operation to determine whether it is having or likely to have harmful effects on the marine environment.

3. The Contractor shall report annually in writing in accordance with these regulations to ~~the Secretary General~~ on the implementation and results of the monitoring programme referred to in paragraph 2, in accordance with regulation 38, paragraph 2(g), and shall release publicly, in an accessible format, data and information at monthly intervals, ~~submit data and information,~~ in accordance with the relevant Standards, and taking into account the relevant Guidelines and recommendations issued by the Commission. ~~The Secretary General shall transmit such reports to the Commission for its consideration pursuant to article 165 of the Convention.~~ The Commission shall consider annual reports pursuant to article 165 of the Convention.

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

In paragraph 1, it is vital that the current levels of pollution and other hazards, and any current harmful effects, be continuously monitored, in addition to anticipating potential harmful effects to the marine environment.

In paragraph 3, the public release of monitoring data at monthly intervals will allow

for regular and routine verification of environmental conditions at the site by the Authority, and contribute to the scientific knowledge about deep sea habitats.