

**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.

48

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.

(c) Be prepared in accordance with the applicable ~~Guidelines~~, Good Industry Practice, Best Available Scientific Evidence, Best Environmental Practices and Best Available Techniques, taking into account the relevant Guidelines, and consistent with other plans in these regulations, including the Closure Plan and the Emergency Response and Contingency Plan.

4. The Contractor shall provide information in its annual report on the implementation of the Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan in accordance with regulations 38, paragraph 2(g), and 46ter, paragraph 3, for evaluation by the Legal and Technical Commission, as well as publicly release, in an accessible format, monitoring data and information at monthly intervals.

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

Firstly, since the Guidelines are not legally binding, we have suggested an alternative formulation for considering them in the preparation of an EMMP.

Secondly, we propose that Environmental Management and Monitoring Plans be required

to include data reporting at regular subannual intervals in addition to the submission of the annual report. Currently, monthly or quarterly reporting is encouraged in the Draft guidelines for the preparation of Environmental Management and Monitoring Plans. More frequent reporting would allow regular and routine verification of environmental conditions at the site by the Authority, and contribute to scientific knowledge about deep sea habitats.