



## **Template for the review of the draft standards and guidelines associated with the draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area**

### **I. Background**

1. The draft regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area ([ISBA/25/C/WP.1](#)) require that certain issues are addressed in accordance with, or taking into account, standards and guidelines to be developed by the organs of the Authority. The standards will be adopted by the Council and will be legally binding on Contractors and the Authority, whereas the guidelines will be issued by the Legal and Technical Commission or the Secretary-General and will be recommendatory in nature.
2. Stakeholder consultation is an integral part of the process decided upon by the Commission for the development of the standards and guidelines ([ISBA/25/C/19/Add.1](#)).
3. The Legal and Technical Commission will consider the comments received through stakeholder consultation during its current session.
4. The drafts include a cover page containing background and contextual information on the approach taken by the Legal and Technical Commission in developing each standard and guidelines. Please note that stakeholder comments are not sought on this cover note.
5. Issues of format and consistency across the standards and guidelines will be reviewed by the secretariat and the Legal and Technical Commission once the content of the various standards and guidelines is finalized following stakeholder consultation.

### **II. Submitting Comments**

6. To ensure that your comments are given due consideration, please send them by e-mail to [ola@isa.org.im](mailto:ola@isa.org.im), at your earliest convenience but **no later than the date announced on the ISA website for the relevant draft standards and guidelines**.
7. When submitting comments, please adhere to the following guidance as much as possible:
  - a. Please provide all comments in writing and in an MS Word .doc or .docx format using the table provided below.
  - b. The table format allows for an unlimited number of comments to be added. To add more comments, you may add more rows.

- c. Please provide full contact information for the individual/Government/organization submitting the comments.
  - d. Please avoid commenting on issues related to format, grammar, spelling or punctuation, unless it affects the overall meaning of the text, as the document will be formatted and edited when the final draft is prepared by the Legal and Technical Commission.
  - e. To facilitate the revision process please be as specific as possible in your comments. In areas where you feel additional or alternative text or information is required, please suggest what this text may look like or what information should be included.
  - f. Text may be copied from the draft into the table if stakeholders wish to use "track changes" in editing text (this is encouraged to ensure accuracy and avoid numbering errors).
  - g. If you refer to additional sources of information, please include these with your comments when possible or provide a complete reference or hyperlink.
  - h. All review comments will be posted on the ISA website, unless otherwise requested by the submitting entity.
8. Should you have any questions regarding the review process, please contact [ola@isa.org.jm](mailto:ola@isa.org.jm).

### **III. Template for Comments**

- 9. Please use the review template below when providing comments.
- 10. Line and page numbers have been provided in the drafts. Please use these as a reference as illustrated in the table below.

#### **TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS**

<b><i>Document reviewed</i></b>	
<b>Title of the draft being reviewed:</b>	Draft standard and guidelines for the preparation and implementation of emergency response and contingency plans
<b><i>Contact information</i></b>	
<b>Surname:</b>	Geldart
<b>Given Name:</b>	Ben
<b>Government (if applicable):</b>	
<b>Organization (if applicable):</b>	UK Seabed Resources
<b>Country:</b>	UK

<b>E-mail:</b>		Benjamin.d.geldart@lmco.com
<b>General Comments</b>		
UK Seabed Resources is grateful for the opportunity to comment on the draft standard and guidelines. UKSR notes that there is currently no mechanism envisaged to enable plans to be supplied to the ISA going forward, for example a suitable, secure portal (such as DeepData for exploration data). Whether or not referenced in the guidelines, such a mechanism might aid the ISA in managing the secure communication and storage of large documents.		
The term Crisis Management covers risk management, business resilience & security.		
Declaration of Phase plans required: Inception, Operation, Close-out or similar should be identified.		
<b>Specific Comments</b>		
<b>Page</b>	<b>Line</b>	<b>Comment</b>
3		<b>II. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SCENARIOS 60</b> 61 7. The Contractor shall carry out a <b>hazard identification process</b> that provides a balanced 62 and most comprehensive possible picture of the <b>hazards associated with the mining activities</b> . 63 The hazard identification process shall be appropriate as regards providing support for 64 decisions related to the upcoming processes, operations or phases. 65 62 <b>Reference standard</b> “tools_and_techniques_for_hazard_identification_and_risk_assessments” 63 Change “associated with mining activities” to “throughout the total mining lifecycle” 65 <b>Declaration of Phase plans required: Inception, Operation, Close-out or similar should be identified.</b>
4	97	14. The Contractor shall carry out emergency preparedness analyses, which shall be part 95 of the basis for making decisions when e.g. defining hazard and accident situations, 96 stipulating <b>performance requirements</b> for the emergency preparedness, or selecting and 97 dimensioning emergency preparedness measures. The output from hazards identification/risk 98 5 assessments shall be used as a basis for establishing DSHA. The DSHA shall analyse the 99 course of events and help identify the governing <b>performance requirements</b> for emergency 100 preparedness, which are part of EPA 4 in Figure 2.1. <b>Extend “performance requirements” to include “/success criteria”</b>
5	106	<b>A. Define the objectives 103</b> 104 15. The Contractor shall define the objectives for the emergency preparedness assessment 105 relevant for the <b>project phase</b> for the system(s). The objectives shall be suitable for the 106 purpose of the assessment, particularly with respect to providing sufficient and appropriate 107 input to the decision-making at the right time. The defined objectives for the emergency 108 preparedness assessment (and its included elements) shall be documented. 109 <b>Declaration of Phase plans required: Inception, Operation, Close-out or similar should be identified.</b>
6	169	<b>G. System boundaries 159</b>

		<p>160</p> <p>22. The Contractor shall define and describe in a suitable manner the boundaries for the 161 emergency preparedness assessment. The description shall, as a minimum, include the 162 following main aspects: 163</p> <p>164</p> <p>(a) the technical system (process, structure, utility, safety, emergency 165 preparedness systems); 166</p> <p>(b) the period of time and types of operations and activities to which the analysis 167 relates; 168</p> <p>(c) available resources on the <b>facility</b>; 169</p> <p>(d) interaction with relevant resources - company, field, area and external 170 emergency resources; 171</p> <p>(e) definition of risk exposed groups, including possible 3rd party groups. 172</p> <p>173</p> <p>23. The boundaries set in the EPA process shall be documented. 174</p> <p>Description of what is included within “facility” similar to installation/vessel?</p>
6	188	<p><b>III. INCIDENTS HAVING HARMFUL EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT</b> 183</p> <p>184</p> <p>25. The Contractor shall update the environmental risk and emergency preparedness 185 analyses in case of significant changes affecting the environmental risk or the emergency 186 preparedness situation. In any case, updating needs shall be assessed periodically (at least 187 <b>every 5 years</b>). The Contractor’s management systems and their alignment with the 188 subcontractors’, if any, is vital during the mining operations.</p> <p>Min 5yrs too long for early phases, this needs to be a dynamic reviewing cadence based on incidences and/or maturity of the systems architecture/operation. Early days more frequent reviews (6mons/annually) extending to longer intervals if there is a long period of zero incidents.</p>
7	221	<p>218</p> <p>31. Personnel shall be aware of what barriers have been established and which function 219 they are intended to fulfil, as well as what performance requirements have been defined in 220 respect of the <b>concrete</b> technical, operational or organizational barrier elements necessary for 221 the individual barrier to be effective.</p> <p>Replace “concrete” with “finalized”</p>
7	238	<p>237</p> <p>33. The organization, both <b>on board and on shore</b>, shall be set-up to function as one entity 238 in terms of responding to an emergency incident.</p> <p>Revise “offshore and onshore”</p>
8	<del>266</del> 258	<p>New: Defined scheduled check-in deadline to prevent auto emergency dispatch in case of comms failure (could be incorporated into paragraph 36).</p>
8		<p>41. The first type of audit involves the subcontractor who shall perform an internal audit. 288 The level of authority of who shall execute such audits shall be documented with the 289 expectation that such personnel are competent in carrying out audits with a high-level 290 understanding of operations. <b>Such audits shall be performed twice a year</b>. While documenting 291 the audits in the form of an audit</p>

	291 293	report, a separate record of <b>non-conformities and 292 observations</b> shall be documented. 293 Annually at a minimum & then within a set timeframe (6 months) from any corrective action, improvements or changes embodied in the plans. Include “along with an Route Cause Analysis (RCA) report & corrective action plan where appropriate”
8	298	42. The second type of audit involves the Contractor who shall audit the subcontractor 295 and its asset(s). The Contractor shall be responsible for documenting such audits and 296 maintenance of a separate register for <b>non-conformities and observations</b> along with the audit 297 report. Such audits shall be conducted at least once a year. Include “along with a Route Cause Analysis (RCA) report & corrective action plan where appropriate”
11	382	<b>II. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS SCENARIOS 378</b> 379 3. The scope of an Emergency Preparedness Assessment (EPA) is to update the response 380 strategies, performance requirements, emergency preparedness organization and measures to 381 cover the <b>design, construction and operational phase</b> . The objective of such an analysis is to 382 provide the necessary basis for the emergency preparedness plan and the exercise and 383 training plans, in accordance with the Standard. 384 Include “and End of Life phases”
15	573 576	<b>A. For all assets, the risk analysis shall as a minimum consider whether the 563 following accidental events are relevant: 564</b> 1. Collisions: 565 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collision with supply ship. 566</li> <li>• Collision with fishing vessel. 567</li> <li>• Collision with standby vessel. 568</li> <li>• Collision with transport vessel. 569</li> <li>• Collision with underwater craft. 570</li> <li>• Collision with drifting objects. 571</li> </ul> 2. Incorrect weight distribution: 572 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shifting of deck cargo. 573</li> <li>• Swinging loads from cranes or derricks. 574</li> <li>• Shifting of ballast. 575</li> <li>• Icing. 576</li> </ul> Include “/accumulation of mined materials”)
16	614	5. <b>Vertical riser system: 614</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clogged buffer system 615</li> <li>• Clogged riser pipe 616</li> <li>• Break of riser pipe 617</li> <li>• Failure of recovery system 618</li> <li>• Pump leakage 619</li> </ul> Change to “Material Transfer System”. The riser may not be the only system employed.


*Comments should be sent by e-mail to [ola@isa.org.im](mailto:ola@isa.org.im)*