

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 27TH SESSION:
COUNCIL - PART 3**

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:

African Group of 47 Member 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. — Contractors shall, [consistent with] [taking into account] the relevant Guidelines, carry out exploitation under an exploitation contract with reasonable regard for other activities in the Marine Environment, [including but not limited to submarine cables and pipelines in the Contract Area, fishing activities and other activities], in accordance with article 147 of the Convention and the approved Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan, [Regional Environmental Management Plan] and Closure Plan [and any applicable international rules and standards established by competent international organizations]. In particular, each Contractor shall exercise [due diligence] [reasonable regard] to ensure that it does not cause damage to submarine cables or pipelines in the Contract Area] [or structures deriving from other marine uses] [should carry out Exploitation activities with reasonable regard to submarine cables or pipelines so as to avoid destroying or damaging them].~~

1 alt. Contractors shall, consistent with the relevant Guidelines, carry out Exploitation under an exploitation contract with reasonable regard for other activities in the Marine Environment in accordance with article 147 of the Convention and the approved Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan and Closure Plan and any applicable international rules and standards established by competent international organizations, and relevant national laws and regulations of Sponsoring States and flag States.

1 alt bis. Each Contractor shall exercise due diligence to ensure that it does not cause damage to submarine cables or pipelines in the Contract Area. In particular, the Contractor shall:

(a) comply with the measures it agreed with the operators of the submarine cables and pipelines to reduce the risk of damage to any in-service cables and pipelines (such as an easement, or a mining exclusion zone within a reasonable radius); and

(b) ensure that any actions it takes will not interfere with the route of a planned submarine cable or pipeline.

~~1 alt ter. Contractors shall carry out Exploitation under an exploitation contract with reasonable regard for climate mitigation carried out by ecosystem in the area, such as carbon burial and sequestration and nutrients recycling~~

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

Regarding regulation 31, para 1, we support the text proposed in 1 Alt.

Regarding 1 alt ter, we are interested in the concepts it contains, but consider that it might not be appropriate for a section on Other Users of the Marine Environment. We suggest that it should be deleted here and considered elsewhere in the regulations.