TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 28TH SESSION: COUNCIL - PART I

Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete and send to council@isa.org.jm.

1. Name of Working Group:

IWG of the Whole.

2. Name(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:

Submitted by Nauru Ocean Resources Inc., Tonga Offshore Mining Ltd and Blue Minerals Jamaica Ltd.

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

Annex II(j).

4. 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.

(j) Details on how many vessels <u>are proposed</u> <u>will-to</u> be involved in the mining operations, including how and to where the collected ores <u>are proposed</u> <u>will to</u> be transported from the mining site to shore for processing, <u>as well as details relating to onshore processing</u>.

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

- We oppose the addition of Annex II(j). We support the adoption of Annex II(j) in an amended form, as set out above.
- We respectfully submit that the powers and jurisdiction of the Authority do not extend to onshore processing. This is a matter for the State where onshore processing is undertaken and subject to local domestic laws.
- Further, from a practical perspective, the person or company undertaking onshore
 processing may not be the same person or company that is undertaking the
 Exploitation Activities, and the Contractor may have limited access to information
 concerning onshore processing. In such circumstances, it may not be possible for
 a Contractor to comply with Annex II(j) as presently drafted.
- We consider flexibility should also be added to Annex II(j) concerning the number of vessels and location of sites for onshore processing. The number of vessels used in mining operations may change, including due to the availability of vessels.

Therefore, we consider that the wording of Annex II(j) should be amended to "proposed" to allow a Contractor flexibility to undertake the operations according to market conditions, without the need to amend the Mining Workplan if the number of vessels used is greater or smaller than anticipated.