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

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

1. Name of Working Group:

Informal working group on the protection and preservation of the marine environment – IWG ENV

- 2. Name(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal: United States
- 3. Please indicate the relevant provision to which the textual proposal refers.

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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.

2.

(d) The necessary health and safety requirements are complied with; Any health and safety requirements related to closure activities are complied with;

(f) <u>Any_necessary</u> <u>Required</u> restoration or rehabilitation commitments will be are fulfilled by the Contractor in accordance with predetermined criteria or standards the relevant Standards and taking into account the relevant Guidelines by the Contractor;

5. The Closure Plan shall be reviewed annually in conjunction with the results of post-closure monitoring and reviewed- annually and updated each time there is a Material Change in a Plan of Work or where the post-closure monitoring data or improvements in knowledge and technology indicate a need for modifications, or, in cases where no such Material Cehange has occurred and no monitoring data and information or improved knowledge or technology has signaled a need for updates, every five years and be finalized in accordance with regulation 60 (1).

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

In paragraph 2(d), we suggest adding the phrase "are complied with" for improved clarity. In paragraph 2(f), we suggest replacing "Any necessary" with "Required," to be clear that the Closure Plan has among its objectives the fulfillment of *all* restoration or rehabilitation commitments made by the Contractor. We propose additional changes to 2(f) to clarify that restoration or rehabilitation commitments are to be fulfilled by the Contractor in accordance with Standards, Guidelines, or conditions set by the Authority.

In paragraph 5, we support retaining the annual review of the Closure Plan. We further recommend that review of the Closure Plan take into account the results of environmental monitoring, together with improvements in knowledge and technology, as these inputs may inform improvements to the Plan's management approaches.