

DOSI Intervention regarding item 10: Draft Regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area: Fourth meeting of the Informal Working Group on the Protection and Preservation of The Marine Environment

**DR60 - Final Closure Plan
Delivered 22 March 2023**

Thank you, Madame Facilitator. Regarding Para 4, The Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative appreciates the Commission requiring the Contractor to make amendments to the final Closure Plan as a condition for approval of the plan. However, we query what action, if any, will be taken if the Closure Plan does not meet what is required.

Also, as stated by several States, the revised Closure Plans need to be made public. This allows stakeholders to provide comments to inform the Legal and Technical Commission and Council before the Closure Plan is finally approved. We note that closure may take place several decades after the draft Closure Plan was originally considered, with consultation, at application stage.

To this effect, the Closure Plan presented 24 months before the end of Commercial Production should be subject to the stakeholder review mechanism under DR 11.

Many thanks, Madame Facilitator