



Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

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The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) and has the honour to refer to discussions by Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Federated States of Micronesia, New Zealand, Norway, United States of America and the United Kingdom on the subject of Standardisation of Stakeholder consultations within the draft exploitation Regulations.

The current draft exploitation Regulations contain a number of obligations to undertake Stakeholder consultation. Since Part II of the 27th Session of the ISA Council, the United Kingdom has worked with Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Federated States of Micronesia, New Zealand, Norway and United States of America on proposing a Standardised approach to Stakeholder consultations to ensure a clear and consistent process that effectively consults all Stakeholders in a transparent and open manner.

On behalf of the group (Australia, Canada, Costa Rica, Federated States of Micronesia, New Zealand, Norway and United States of America) the United Kingdom wishes to submit the outcomes of the group along with the proposed next steps, for the consideration of the 28th Session of the International Seabed Authority Council in March 2023.

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office would be grateful if this Note Verbale No 10/2023 and its attachment could be drawn to the attention of the members of the Authority and for the enclosure to be posted on the Council section of the ISA website which provides Informal Working Group information for delegations attending the Part I Council meeting in March 2023.

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority the assurances of its highest consideration.

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