



DRAFT REGULATIONS ON THE EXPLOITATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES IN THE AREA

**INFORMAL WORKING GROUP FOR THE PROTECTION
AND PRESERVATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT**

BY RAIJELI TAGA (FACILITATOR)

BACKGROUND & SUMMARY TO REVISION

- Revisions to Parts IV,VI & related Annexes (ISBA/27/C/IWG/ENV/CRP.1)
- Webinar to receive general views on my proposed revisions to the draft Regulations and related Annexes only.
- No changes made to the Facilitator's Text in this webinar , no forum for negotiation but to gather your general views and general comments. Specific textual edits and amendments in March at the negotiations. This webinar is not for negotiations, only general views on the ISBA/27/C/IWG/CRP.1
- Presentation of the Facilitator's Text: placeholders and boxes under my revisions

DISCUSSION – PART IV

SECTION 1 -OBLIGATIONS

- **General obligations**
 - Sponsoring states to implement measures in DR 44 a (i-iv).
- **Environmental Standards in DR 45**
 - LTC has commenced preparation of the standards. For instance, LTC has already prepared a draft standard and guidelines on EIA process
- **Environmental Management System in DR 46**
 - Clarifies responsibilities in development of systems and auditing of the same
- **Environmental impact assessment**
 - Aims to respond to concerns that the Regulations must set out clearly a requirement for an EIA.

DISCUSSION – PART IV

SECTION 1 -OBLIGATIONS

Environmental monitoring DR 46 ter

- **Aims at providing for the obligation to continuously monitor the effects of the mining operation on the marine environment**
- **Based on similar provisions in Exploration Regulations and in the Convention**
- **Last paragraph deals with involvement of coastal States.**

SECTION 2 PREPARATION EIS/EMMP

- **EIS**

EIA elements included in the new regulation 46bis

- **EMMP**

“Effects”/ “impacts”

SECTION 3 – POLLUTION CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF WASTE

- **Pollution Control**
 - Further discussions in March

- **Restriction on Mining Discharges**

SECTION 4 – COMPLIANCE EMMP AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS

- **Performance assessments**
 - Revisions aim to respond to the comments of a number of delegations
 - Issues of frequency of assessments and reporting to be further discussed in March

- **Emergency Response/Contingency Plan**

SECTION 5 – ENVIRONMENTAL COMPENSATION FUND

- Establishment of the ECF
- Purpose of the Fund
- Financing of the Fund

PART VI

- **Closure Plans**

- All decommissioning shall comply with standards
- Any residual Environmental Effects are quantified and management responses implemented
- Final Closure Plan
- Post-closure monitoring

ANNEX IV

- **The nature of template for the EIS needs further discussion in March**
- **Needs to be consistency between sections**

ANNEX VII -EMMP

- **The LTC has developed draft guidelines on the preparation of environmental management and monitoring plans.**

ANNEX VIII

- Closure **Plan**

- Some proposals may need explanation from proponents in March

WAY FORWARD

- Receive general views from the participants and any initial reaction to the Facilitator's text.
- Presentation of a summary of the general views expressed in this webinar at the March Council Meeting
- **Suggestions for IWG in March 2022**



THANK YOU