

**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 Environment

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

Argentina

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

Annex IV – Part 1, Executive Summary (e bis), 4.2 Regional Overview, 4.5 Geological properties and habitat classification, 4.8 Seabed substrate and sub-seabed characteristics, 5.2 Regional Overview, Alt. 5.4.1. Surface

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.

1. Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement

The Environmental Impact Statement prepared under these regulations and the present annex shall:

(...)

(b) Provide information, based on data from, as a general rule, a minimum of 15 years of monitoring, in accordance with the relevant regulations, ~~requirements of regional environmental management plans,~~ and Standards and taking into account the relevant Guidelines and the relevant applicable regional environmental management plan,...

Executive Summary

~~[(e) bis Conformity with the Authority’s global environmental policy and strategy and the applicable regional environmental management plan; and]~~

4.2 Regional overview

Describe the general baseline environmental conditions of the site and impact area, in accordance with the Standard on baseline data collection, including but not limited to the physical, chemical and geological and oceanographic setting as well as known or suspected

Underwater Cultural Heritage within a broader regional context and ~~taking into account in accordance with~~ the applicable Regional Environmental Management Plan.

4.5 Geological properties and habitat classification

(...)

Provide habitat classification using an appropriate system as prescribed in the relevant Standard ~~and taking into consideration the or~~ Regional Environmental Management Plan.

4.8 Seabed substrate and sub-seabed characteristics

(...)

Substrate composition should be described to a depth below the seafloor prescribed in the relevant Standard or ~~as indicated in the~~ Regional Environmental Management Plan.

5.2 Regional overview

(...)

Provide regional context for the baseline environmental conditions of the mining site and impact area, including but not limited to the general biological setting, ~~taking into account in accordance with~~ the applicable Regional Environmental Management Plan...

Alt. 5.4.1. Surface

Describe the biological communities and ecosystem functions, structured by depth ranges in accordance with relevant Standards and ~~taking into account the~~ Regional Environmental Management Plan, which may encompass...

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

REMPs are environmental policy tools, not legal instruments, and their provisions are not binding obligations. The REMPs' nature should be reflected in the language used to refer to them, especially in order to distinguish them from other instruments that are actually legally binding and that are even mentioned in the same sentence (ex.: Regulations and/or Standards).

Argentina does not support the addition of Par.(e) bis in the Executive Summary. In case there's a consensus to include it, the language should be modified as to reflect the non-binding nature of the REMP.