

TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS FOR THE 28TH SESSION: COUNCIL -
PART II

Informal Working Group - Environment

Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete and send to council2022@isa.org.jm.

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

Submitted by the International Marine Minerals Society (IMMS)

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

DR 46(ter) (3) from Dr Taga's (Facilitator the IWG on the Protection of the Marine Environment) further revised text, made available on 3 March 2023:

<https://www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/ENV-Facilitator-further-revised-text.pdf>

3. 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.

3. The Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan shall contain a monitoring programme for ~~Exploitation, to be conducted in compliance with the applicable Standards.~~

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Deleted: by independent experts and

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

- There is text in DR46(ter)(3) that duplicates Regulation 48.3bis.
- We are not sure why the monitoring would be potentially limited to the first seven years of exploitation. We imagine some form of monitoring would be required throughout the duration of exploitation, although it would likely be more intensive at the start of operations and become less intensive as time goes on.
- Monitoring by independent experts raises several questions about practicability (e.g., expert qualifications [who 'certifies' and who decides who is an expert?]; duplication of activities on site, who funds?, operational safety [would there be a separate monitoring vessel on site?], what happens if the work of the independent experts is disrupted, etc?)
- We suggest that the monitoring should be conducted by the Contractor as per the EMMP but independently verified by the ISA. The ISA could reach out to independent experts for assistance if they (the ISA) deem it necessary.