

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 World Organization of Dredging Associations (WODA)

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

Draft Annex IV - Environmental Impact Statement

- Annex IV, 1.(b)
- Annex IV, 1.(d)

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.

Original text

(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 taking into account the relevant applicable regional environmental management plan, corresponding to the scale and potential magnitude of the activities, to assess the likely Environmental Effects of the proposed activities. Such effects shall be discussed in proportion to their significance. Where an applicant or Contractor considers an Environmental Effect to be of no significance, there should be sufficient information to substantiate such conclusion, or a brief discussion as to why further research is not warranted; and

Proposed text

(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 taking into account the relevant applicable regional environmental management plan, corresponding to the scale and potential magnitude of the activities, to assess the likely Environmental Effects of the proposed activities.

Original text

~~(d) Be peer reviewed by competent independent experts, before submission and include a description of the experts, their qualifications, and the results of their review.~~

Proposed text

~~[Delete para]~~

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

- Annex IV, 1.(b) The requirement for 15 years of environmental baseline studies is unnecessarily prescriptive and it not to our knowledge in line with existing ISA guidance. Environmental baseline studies should be of a duration sufficient to capture the variability in baseline conditions of an area in proportion to the size of the area likely to be impacted by exploitation activities, and this take more or less than 15 years. We note that the duration of the environmental baseline study phase would be determined in the EIA scoping phase.
- Annex IV, 1.(d) Deleted paragraph as competent experts will have been involved in the EIS preparation and therefore this duplicates the LTC review. The LTC can subsequently request such a review if they consider this necessary.