

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

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:

Informal Working Group on the Protection and Preservation of the Marine Environment

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

USA

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

Draft Regulation 60

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.

1bis. The Secretary-General shall make the final Closure Plan submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) available on the Authority’s website [[for a period of at least ~~60~~90 days]] and invite members of the Authority and Stakeholders to submit comments in writing [[within 90 days].]

[1 ter. The Secretary-General shall, within [seven calendar days] [14 calendar days] following the close of the commenting period under paragraph 1bis, provide the comments submitted by members of the Authority and Stakeholders, to the applicant Contractor for its consideration and to the Commission. The Contractor shall consider the comments and provide responses to the substantive comments received and shall submit any revised plans and responses to the Commission within 90 days from receiving the comments from the Secretary-General.]

[2. The Commission shall examine the Final Closure Plan and any comments received pursuant to paragraph 1bis and revisions and responses made pursuant to paragraph 1ter at its next meeting, provided that these have been circulated at least ~~{30}~~{60} Days in advance of the meeting.

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

We support the following timelines:

- In paragraph 1bis, we propose that the Closure Plan be available on the Authority’s website for a period of at least 90 days, in order to align with the timeline provided for comment submission.
- In paragraph 1ter, we recommend that the text specify that the Contractor consider and provide responses to substantive comments received, as a requirement to address non-substantive comments may prove overly burdensome.

- In paragraph 2, we support a timeframe of 60 days advance circulation of Final Closure Plans for consideration by the Commission, as we believe this option will provide for more considered review by members of the LTC, including time for consultation with external experts as needed.