



DOSI intervention #5
Annex IV Environmental Impact Statement – Delivered by Patricia Esquete on 02/11/2023

Thank you Madam Facilitator

Regarding Annex IV, the Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative welcomes many of the proposed revisions, and we thank you for your hard work to develop this Annex. DOSI will submit written comments on specific paragraphs. However, we have one general comment, and would also like to take a moment to clarify some of the comments we have heard during this discussion.

Regarding the introductory text of annex IV, DOSI would like to make a suggestion related to the clarity of language. As experts reviewing EISs, we note that clear and legible graphs and figures are paramount for the clarity of the statement as a whole. However, appropriate quality of such figures is not always evident, including in reports we have seen submitted to the ISA. We therefore suggest the inclusion of additional wording in paragraph 1(a), which would read as follows: “Be prepared in a clear language, *including clear graphics and tables*, and in an official language...etc” The aim is to ensure that data are presented in a way that allows relevant parties and stakeholders to engage in meaningful ways with the material.

Regarding paragraph 5.4, in response to some delegations’ interventions, DOSI would like to clarify that the focus should be on maintaining ecosystem functions that are imperative for climate regulation. That is biological processes that facilitate climate regulation.

Likewise, DOSI strongly recommends that para 4.6 about the incorporation and assessment of climate change effects is kept. The length of a contract covers several decades, over which climate change effects will become more and more apparent. Therefore, given that the EIS is part of a PoW, it should include climate change effects.

DOSI would finally like to reiterate its commitment to participate in public consultation and review of the EISs as much as possible in our capacities as experts. DOSI stands ready to assist the Council and its member States.

thank you Madam Facilitator