

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 29TH 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(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:** Australia

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

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- 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.**

~~Publication and review of the Environmental Plans and Environmental Management Systems~~

~~Alt.-Publication, notification, and review of the Application~~

1. The Secretary-General shall, within 7 Days after determining that an application for the approval of a Plan of Work is ready to progress pursuant to Regulation 10:

(a) Taking into account the confidentiality of the data, place the application, the Environmental Plans and all non-confidential documentation submitted and associated with it, including any supporting material] on the Authority’s website for a period of 90 Days, and notify and invite members of the Authority, relevant adjacent coastal States, [and any other States adjacent to the Exploitation Area when they are potentially the most affected States], Stakeholders, [and the general public] to submit comments in writing within 90 Days, in accordance with the applicable Standards and taking into consideration Guidelines. [All comments shall be published at the Authority’s website.

[(b) Request the Commission to provide its comments on the Environmental Plans and the non-confidential parts of the Test Mining study within the 90 Day comment period.]

[(c) Based on the assessment of the Commission, if necessary, establish an independent review team, making use of the roster of competent independent experts, if any, to provide comments on the Environmental Plans within the comment period.]

2. The Secretary-General shall, within 7 Days following the closure of the comment period, provide all submissions received, and any comments from the Secretary-General to the applicant and publish all submissions and comments provided at the Authority's website.

2 bis The applicant shall consider the comments provided pursuant to paragraph 1 and shall, ~~as appropriate,~~ revise the [Application] or provide responses to the relevant and substantive comments, explaining ~~as to~~ how they were taken into account, and submit any revisions and responses to the Secretary-General within a period of 30 Days following the close of the comment period or such longer period as determined by the Secretary-General following a request by the applicant.

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

Australia proposes the alternative heading as more appropriate for this draft regulation, as paragraph 2 provides that all non-confidential information in the Application shall be published on the Authority's website, not just the Environmental Plans and Environmental Management Systems.

In Paragraph (1)(a), Australia proposes removing the square brackets around the words and 'and the general public'. This is to avoid limiting the invitation to review and comment on the Application to a narrowly targeted range of stakeholders only.

In paragraph (2)(bis) Australia proposes removing the words 'as appropriate' in the first sentence, to clarify that applicants should be required to respond to all comments received, and to also require the applicant to explain how comments were taken into account.