

**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 of Working Group:

Informal Working Group on Institutional Matters

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

Submitted by Nauru Ocean Resources Inc., Tonga Offshore Mining Ltd. and Blue Minerals Jamaica Ltd.

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

Draft Regulation 15(5)

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.

Regulation 15 [IWG IM]

Commission’s recommendation for the approval or disapproval of a Plan of Work

[...]

5. ~~[At its next available meeting,] T~~the Commission shall consider any such representations made by the applicant when preparing its reports and recommendations to the Council, which it shall do within 30 days of its receipt of such representations including through intersessional or virtual meetings if necessary ~~[alt 1. provided that the representations have been circulated at least 30 Ddays in advance of that meeting] [alt 2. which it shall do within 30 days of its receipt of such representations]. The Commission shall then consider the application afresh, in the light of the representations, in accordance with this Section 3.~~

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

- We do not consider it necessary or appropriate to limit the Commission’s consideration of these matters to its regularly scheduled meetings. The Commission already has a heavy workload at its scheduled meetings, which will only increase once the Draft Regulations are adopted. As such, the Commission must be ready to work intersessional and virtually to fulfil its mandate and work under these Regulations.
- As such, we propose the changes reflected above. We support the alt 2 wording for Draft Regulation 15(5) and object to including the reference to Commission’s “next available meeting”. The Commission is empowered to work intersessionally. It should make use of this power to ensure the efficient processing and consideration of applications and representations by applicants.

- Linking the Commission's consideration of these representations to its meeting schedule also risks it not complying with the overarching and intended timeframe for its consideration and reporting on applications for Plans of Work.
- As such, we propose that the Commission should consider representations by applicants under Draft Regulation 15 within 30 days of receipt to ensure there is no unnecessary delay in these processes.