

**DOSI intervention regarding item 15: Report of the Finance Committee
Delivered 25 July 2024**

Thank you, Chair.

DOSI would [also] like to comment on the recommendation relating to observers paying financial contributions. Requiring DOSI to make mandatory financial contributions would likely impede our ability to meaningfully participate in the work of the ISA. DOSI is a network of marine science and policy experts who contribute their time and expertise on a voluntary basis. This includes the delegation of DOSI members who attend ISA meetings, who all have to request time off from our day jobs to be here. Our contribution also includes attendance, the writing of policy briefs, sharing scientific knowledge through interventions, side events, participation in public consultations, workshops, and intersessional work, providing capacity building and supporting experts from underrepresented groups, amongst others. Involvement in ISA meetings is thus already a significant financial undertaking for DOSI, although an important one. DOSI believes our contributions play a crucial role in international fora, including the ISA, bringing independent and the most recent scientific knowledge into the negotiations to support informed decision-making. DOSI has always made itself readily available to delegates when they require scientific advice, and hopes to be able to continue to do so in the future at ISA meetings.

Thank you