

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 30TH 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.**

DR20 – Term and [extension] of Exploitation Contracts

- 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.**

Note: Text that appears as tracked in the Revised Consolidated text has been ‘accepted’ for the purposes of reproduction below. New proposals are tracked.

Term and [extension] of Exploitation Contracts

...

2. An application to extend~~d~~ an Exploitation Contract shall be made in writing addressed to the Secretary-General and shall be made no later than [2] years before the expiration of the initial period [or extension period] of the Exploitation Contract.

~~3. When submitting an application to extend~~d~~ an Exploitation Contract, t~~The Contractor shall supply a revised Plan of Work, a revision of all accompanying plans in accordance with Regulation 7, as well as any such documentation as may be specified in the Standards and Guidelines. ~~If the Contractor wishes to make any changes to a Plan of Work and such changes are Material Changes according to Regulation 57, the contractor shall submit a revised Plan of Work [and a revision for all accompanying plans in accordance with Regulation 7]. [The [Secretary General]] Contractor} shall conduct a consultation process on the revised Plan of Work, with all States and Stakeholders in accordance with Regulation 93 bis and 93 ter.]~~

4. The Commission shall consider the application to extend an Exploitation Contract, along with any revised documents or responses prepared by the Contractor pursuant to Regulation 93 bis

(9) ~~[at its next meeting]~~ provided the documentation required under paragraph 3 or pursuant to Regulation 93 bis (9) has been circulated at least ~~[60]~~ Days prior to the commencement of that meeting of the Commission.

~~4.ter The Commission shall submit its report and recommendations to the Council regarding an application to extend an exploitation contract no later than 120 Days from the date of the completion of the requirements for review of updated Environmental Plans, in accordance with Regulation 11, or from the date of the completion of the amendments to the revised or a new Plan of Work, in accordance with Regulation 14, if any, whichever date occurs later.~~

...

8. An Exploitation Contract in respect of which an application for extension has been made ~~[shall]~~ ~~[may]~~, despite its expiry date, remain in force until such time as the extension application has been considered and its extension has been granted or refused.

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

Australia proposes using the term 'extension' in the title to reflect DR20's substantive language.

Australia proposes lifting square brackets around '2' in paragraph (2) to avoid requests for extension being submitted close to the time a contract will expire.

Australia also proposes amending paragraph (3) to require the Contractor to submit a revised Plan of Work and accompanying plans and documentation when seeking an extension of its Exploitation Contract.

Australia proposes deleting paragraph (4ter) for consistency with its proposal for DR12 paragraph (2) – that is, the Commission's assessment should not be subject to an artificial time limit that ignores practical considerations.

Australia proposes retaining 'shall' over 'may' in paragraph 8 to ensure the Contractor remains subject to binding legal obligations pending an extension decision.