



**Intervention on Regulation 44bis Regional Environmental Management Plans,
Delivered 22 July 2022**

Thank you Madame Facilitator.

The Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative also supports the inclusion of Alt1 of Regulation 44bis. A REMP should be in place before any Plan of Work is considered. As reported in a recent scientific peer-reviewed paper, regions where exploration contracts exist are still sorely lacking in environmental data to guide effective decision-making. As such, there should be no time limit placed on the development of REMPs, as the collection and analysis of necessary data to inform REMPs should not be rushed.

Thank you Madame Facilitator.