



**ITEM 11 - DRAFT REGULATIONS ON EXPLOITATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES
IN THE AREA**

**Agenda item 11 - [ISBA/27/C/30](#) - Draft regulations on exploitation of mineral
resources in the Area Normative environmental thresholds for deep-seabed
mining; Submitted by the delegation of Germany**

Delivered on 21.07.2022

Madame Facilitator,

As this is the first time, the Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative has been given the floor during this Working Group, please allow us to thank and congratulate you on the intersessional progress made on this important document.

The Deep-Ocean Stewardship Initiative welcomes and fully supports Germany's submission on the urgent need for the development of normative environmental thresholds, and is very glad to see the positive reception by so many States and Observers. This will be key for warning the Authority BEFORE any serious harm occurs, and equally importantly, allows the Authority to adopt effective and necessary measures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment from the harmful effects of mining activities.

Environmental thresholds should be grounded in comprehensive scientific research, including good environmental baseline data, much of which still has to be collected and analyzed. The more comprehensive the baseline data, the more confidence we can have in the thresholds. In the absence of widespread and robust baseline data, thresholds will need to include a precautionary buffer.

DOSI welcomes and fully supports the inclusive nature of text in the submission that speaks to the suggested procedure for developing thresholds. DOSI, with its large global network of deep-sea experts, stands ready to support the proposed working group.

Thank you Madame Facilitator.