

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 27TH SESSION:
COUNCIL - PART I**

Informal Working Group - Environment

Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete.

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

China

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

Regulation 44 bis

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.

44bis 3. An application for a Plan of Work shall not be considered by the Commission until and unless a Regional Environmental Management Plan has been adopted by the Council for the particular area concerned. In the event that an application for a Plan of Work is submitted for an area where no such Regional Environmental Management Plan exists, the drafting of a Regional Environmental Management Plan applicable to the area in concern shall be prioritised and adopted without any undue delay, taking into account Section1, Article 15 b/c of the 1994 Implementing Agreement. **Before the establishment of REMP in all the regions where exploration contracts already exist, the commercial production in the Area shall not be allowed.**

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

China supports the Authority to protect the environment of the Area through the establishment of REMP, but considering that currently only Clarion-Clipperton Fracture Zone has REMP, in order to treat contractors in different regions equally and not to make REMP as an obstacle to commercial production, China proposes to add *“Before the establishment of REMP in all the regions where exploration contracts already exist, the commercial production in the Area shall not be allowed.”*