

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 27<sup>TH</sup> 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 and send to [council2022@isa.org.jm](mailto:council2022@isa.org.jm).*

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

UK, Norway and USA

(NOTE: Canada has confirmed provisional support at this time)

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

Regulation 92

**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.**

**Regulation 92**

**Seabed Mining Register**

1. The Secretary-General shall establish, maintain and publish a Seabed Mining Register in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines. Such register shall contain:

(a) The names of the Contractors and the names and addresses of their designated representatives;

(b) The applications made by ~~each the various~~ Contractor and the accompanying documents submitted in accordance with regulation 7 including any revisions, during the term of a contract as well as any non-confidential parts of annual reports and the results of monitoring and test mining projects;

(c) The terms of the various exploitation contracts in accordance with regulation 17;

(d) The geographical extent of Contract Areas and Mining Areas to which each relate;

(e) The category of Mineral Resources to which each relate;

(f) All payments made by Contractors to the Authority under these regulations;

(g) Any encumbrances regarding the exploitation contract made in accordance with regulation 22;

(h) Any instruments of transfer; and

(h)bis All other documents required by these regulations relating to contract areas, including documents required before, during or after application for a Plan of Work, documents required

during the term of the contract, and revised documents, except for confidential information which shall be redacted;

(h)ter Copies of all reports, recommendations and decisions of the Authority relating to each contract area, before, during or after application for a Plan of Work and throughout the term of the contract, except for confidential information which shall be redacted.

(i) Any other details which the Secretary-General considers appropriate (save Confidential Information).

2. The Seabed Mining Register shall be publicly available on the Authority's website

## **Reg 92bis**

### **Publication of environmental data and information**

The Secretary General shall publish all environmental data and information relating to a contract area, whether produced before, during or after application for a Plan of Work, or during the term of the contract, including any revisions to that data or information, on a central data repository that is publicly accessible via the website of the International Seabed Authority, and, in accordance with the Rules of the Authority and relevant Standards and Guidelines.

Any new environmental data and information shall be published on the central data repository at regular intervals.

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

It is important to ensure ease of access by all Stakeholders to environmental documents, data and information regarding each contract.

**For documents:** This can be achieved by making sure all documents in relation to a contract area required by the regulations before during and after an application for a Plan of Work, as well as copies of Authority correspondence (e.g. Secretary-General, Commission, Council and Assembly decisions, recommendation and reports) are publicly available and published in a central location. For this central location for such documents, we recommend the Seabed Mining Register (DR 92).

**For environmental information/data:** this can be achieved by making sure all environmental information in relation to a contract area required by the regulations before, during and after an application for a Plan of Work is publicly available and published in a central, publicly accessible location. For this central location for environmental information, we recommend the ISA central data repository. We understand this is currently called 'ISA DeepData' however we do not recommend referring to the name in these regulations to futureproof against any name changes of the portal. Such environmental information shall be published in accordance with Rules of the Authority and Standards and Guidelines, which will need to be developed and updated in light of new information.

Such environmental data will be published on the SMR as required by DR 92 within the Annual Report, but this data from the Annual Report should also be uploaded to the ISA Central Data repository as soon as possible so it can be publicly accessed and utilized. Furthermore, where Reg 48 asks for environmental information to be made publicly available at shorter intervals than the

Annual Report publication, such environmental information should also be uploaded to the ISA central data repository to keep all environmental information centralised and accessible for Stakeholders.

We understand that we have proposed these additions to Reg 92 and 92bis, which are not in IWG Environment. However, they are fundamental policies relating to the environment and are important to be considered within IWG Environment.