

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 28TH SESSION:
COUNCIL - PART III**

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 of Working Group:** Institutional Matters

- 2. Name(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:** Australia

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

DR 12, paragraphs 1-2 - proposed amendments in green; black and red text is from the Co-Facilitator's draft circulated prior to the July 2023 Council meeting.

- 4. 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.**

1. Subject to Regulation 10 concerning preference and priority among applicants, the Commission shall examine applications in the order in which they are received by the Secretary-General.

1bis. The Commission shall, subject to regulation 11 (4), consider an application at its next meeting, provided that the notifications and information under Regulation 9 have been circulated at least 90 days prior to the commencement of that meeting of the Commission.

2. The Commission shall consider applications expeditiously. ~~and~~

[2alt 1. The Commission shall endeavour to submit its reports and recommendations to the Council no later than ~~120~~ 275 Days from whichever date occurs later out of:

(a) the close of the comment period, in accordance with Regulation 11(1)(a), ~~or~~

(b) the date of ~~submission~~ receipt by the Commission of a revised plan, in accordance with Regulation 11(2)~~ter-~~, or

(c) the date the Commission receives the additional information or amendments to the Plan of Work requested by the Commission under regulation 14.]

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

The amendments to paragraph 1 cross-refer to DR10 regarding preference and priority among applicants.

New paragraph 1bis, moves paragraph 2 of DR 9 to DR 12 to group together provisions concerning the Commission's consideration of applications.

Australia's preference is that there should be no time limit by which the Commission should complete its consideration of an application and submit a report and recommendations to Council.

However, if there is a time limit by which the LTC should complete its consideration of an application, this should be indicative only. DR12 (2 alt (1) provides that If the Commission requires further information from an applicant, the time period is paused and will restart when the Commission receives the further information. To accommodate the Commission's meeting schedule, the indicative period should be revised from 120 to 275 days. For example, there are around 266 days (if whole weeks are counted) between the start of the Commission's July 2023 meeting and the end of its March 2024 meeting.