

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 27<sup>TH</sup> SESSION:  
COUNCIL - PART III**

**Informal Working Group on Inspection, Compliance and Enforcement**

*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](mailto:council@isa.org.jm).*

**1. Name of Working Group:**

Informal Working Group on Institutional Matters

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

China

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

Regulation 16 Consideration of an application by the Council

**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.**

**\*Note: China’s amendments are in Blue**

*The Council shall consider the reports and recommendations of the Commission relating to approval of Plans of Work in accordance with paragraph 11 of section 3 of the annex to the Agreement.*

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

It is suggested that this article be amended as a whole. According to paragraph 11 of section 3 of the annex to the Agreement, The Council shall approve a recommendation by the Commission for approval of a plan of work unless by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, including a majority of members present and voting in each of the chambers of the Council, the Council decides to disapprove a plan of work. If the Council does not take a decision on a recommendation for approval of a plan of work within a prescribed period, the recommendation shall be deemed to have been approved by the Council at the end of that period. The prescribed period shall normally be 60 days unless the Council decides to provide for a longer period. If the Commission recommends the disapproval of a plan of work or does not make a recommendation, the Council may nevertheless approve the plan of work in accordance with its rules of procedure for decision-making on questions of substance. This regulation should be consistent with this article and this article is actually better reflected in the Exploration Regulations and the 2019 edition of the Draft Exploitation Regulations. We propose to revert to the 2019 edition.