

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SESSION:  
COUNCIL - PART III  
IWG Environment**

*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:**

IWG Environment

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

China

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

Regulation 44bis Regional Environmental Management Plans

**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**

1. The Commission shall only consider an application for a Plan of Work if a Regional Environmental Management Plan has been adopted by the Council for the particular area [and type of resource] 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 Section 2, Article 15 b/c of the 1994 Implementing Agreement.

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

At present, there is an environmental management plan only for the exploration area for polymetallic nodule resources in the Eastern Pacific CC Area, but not for other areas or other minerals. Once an environmental management plan cannot be adopted for the relevant area for various reasons, it means that the contracting system associated with it cannot apply for an exploitation contract, which is inconsistent with the principle of equal rights followed by the Authority.