

**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 47 Environmental Impact Assessment Process

**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**

2. The Environmental Impact Assessment Process shall:

(c) Include an environmental risk assessment and ~~a survey of the seabed to identify Underwater Cultural Heritage~~, that takes into consideration the region as a whole taking into account the objectives and measures of the relevant and applicable Regional Environmental Management Plan.

3. The Environmental Impact Assessment Process must follow certain procedural steps to having the plan of work assessed and entail the following elements:

(b) An assessment to describe the impacts on the marine environment ~~and Underwater Cultural Heritage~~ and predict the nature and extent of the Environmental Effects of the mining operation including residual impacts, also considering other existing and foreseen mining operations. This includes assessing:

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

Regarding paragraph 2(c), in both Article 149 and Article 303 of the Convention, the term “found” is used in relation to archaeological and historical objects. If the

Contractor finds archaeological and historical objects in the course of its normal operations, it shall avoid disturbing them and immediately notify the Secretary-General in accordance with the Regulations for Exploration and Regulation 35 of the Draft Regulations. This element, which imposes obligations on the Contractor beyond those set out in the Convention, should be deleted.

Regarding paragraph 3(b), on the one hand, the definition of “marine environment” has been broadened to include Underwater Cultural Heritage, which goes beyond the understanding of the marine environment; on the other hand, it imposes obligations on Contractors that go beyond the provisions of the Convention and should be deleted.