

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 28TH 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.

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.

Appendix 4 4. Description of the existing physiochemical and geological oceanography

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**

4.2 Regional overview

Describe the general baseline environmental conditions of the site and impact area, in accordance with the Standard on baseline data collection, including but not limited to the physical, chemical and geological oceanographic setting ~~as well as known or suspected Underwater Cultural Heritage~~ within a broader regional context and [taking into account] [in accordance with] the applicable Regional Environmental Management Plan. This should be a brief section that includes a map. ~~While intangible cultural heritage may not lend itself to a map, known intangible human connections to the area should also be acknowledged.~~ A more detailed site-specific and impact area description will be provided in accordance with the sections below.

4.3 Studies completed

Describe any prior research/Exploration studies (including methods used for completing the studies based on Best Available Techniques, ~~including surveys of the seabed for Underwater Cultural Heritage~~) that could provide relevant information for

this Environmental Impact Statement. This research should be detailed in the appendices or in reports attached to the appendices

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

4.2 and 4.3 require Contractors to undertake obligations beyond those set out in the Convention. It is suggested to be deleted.

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Appendix 4 6. Description of the existing human activities socioeconomic and sociocultural environment

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6.2.5 Sociocultural uses

List [human activities in] [sociocultural uses of] the project area (e.g., traditional navigation routes, migratory paths of culturally significant marine species, sacred sites and waters associated with ritual or ceremonial activities of Indigenous Peoples and local communities ~~as well as known or suspected Underwater Cultural Heritage~~).

6.3 Sites of an archaeological, historical significance

List any sites of archaeological or historical significance that are known to occur or may occur within the potential area of impact. Provide a map showing known archaeological and historical sites in relation to proposed operations and note any areas of interaction or cumulative impact. Known human connections to or uses of the area should also be acknowledged. Copies of surveys of the project area shall be submitted with notes about anomalies that may ~~indicate the presence of objects of an archaeological and historical nature that should be subject to further research before any potentially destructive activities occur~~.

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

6.2.5 and 6.3 require Contractors to undertake obligations beyond those set out in the Convention. It is suggested to be deleted.

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Appendix 4 9. Assessment of impacts on the socioeconomic and sociocultural environment and proposed Mitigation

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9.3 Sites of an archaeological or historical nature

Describe, as applicable, potential impacts to sites of archaeological, [paleontological](#) or historical significance that are known to occur within the potential area of impact, along with proposed management measures and a description of residual impacts.

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

In terms of terminology, it is proposed to follow the terminology used in the Exploration Regulations and in Regulation 35 of the Draft Regulations, namely, “Human remains and objects and sites of an archaeological or historical nature”.

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Appendix 7 9. Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan

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2. An Environmental Management and Monitoring Plan shall contain:

(c)bis A description of the environmental baseline data, ~~including baseline studies for Underwater Cultural Heritage,~~ measured baseline values for parameters at the site, a characterization of the area proposed to be mined, adjacent areas that could be affected by mining, and areas that will be avoided due to their environmental value.

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

2(c)bis requires Contractors to undertake obligations beyond those set out in the Convention. It is suggested to be deleted.