

TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS FOR THE 29TH SESSION: COUNCIL -
PART II

Informal Working Group - Environment

Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete and send to council2022@isa.org.jm.

1. Name(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:

Submitted by the International Marine Minerals Society (IMMS)

2. Please indicate the relevant provision to which the textual proposal refers.

The term “Serious Harm” in the Schedule, from the consolidated draft text (ISBA/29/C/CRP.1) dated 16 February 2024.

3. 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.

“**Serious Harm**” means any effect from activities in the Area on the Marine Environment which represents a significant adverse change in the Marine Environment determined according to the rules, regulations and procedures of the Authority on the basis of internationally recognized standards and practices informed by Best Available Scientific Information [and, where available, relevant traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and local communities].

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

We prefer the original definition (as above) over the Alt. definition.

The Alt definition lacks the concept of scale – which is needed to make the more detailed definition meaningful. (a) of the Alt version in particular is problematic. Most (all) mineral resources, whether found on land or sea, do not “naturally recover” within human timescales.