

**DOSI intervention regarding item 10: Draft Regulations on exploitation of mineral resources in the Area**

**DR45 - Development of environmental Standards and Guidelines  
Delivered 16 July 2024**

Thank you Mr President,

DOSI supports the comments made by Costa Rica regarding the creation of a Standard on toxicity. This is still an area with limited scientific available data and sufficient knowledge, but the first peer-reviewed results published by the American Chemical Society indicate there could be toxicity effects via the discharge plume in the water column.

For example, cobalt and copper were up to 15 times more elevated compared to the background seawater.

However, we note that this has not been researched to determine the effects on biology of such exposures, highlighting the great uncertainty that still exists in understanding potential impacts, and the need to relate these environmental changes to biological responses.

Thank you Mr President