

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 29<sup>TH</sup> SESSION:  
COUNCIL - PART II**

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(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROTECTION OF THE SEA (ACOPS)**

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

**DRAFT REGULATION 47[~~alt-bis~~]. [IWG ENV] Environmental Impact Assessment, paragraph 1 in small (e):**

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.

**1. The applicant or Contractor shall, .... undertake an impact assessment ... This includes assessing:**

**(a) ... (d)**

**(e) The extent of interference with the ecological balance of the marine environment, including ecosystem functions that may be altered by the impact.**

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

We intervened on DR 44/DR 44 ter (16 July) re the required implementation of Article 145 (a)'s obligation to develop rules, regulations and procedures to prevent, reduce and control interference with the ecological balance of the marine environment. Adequate implementation also entails, e.g., inclusion in the EIA process. Ecological balance comprises more than ecosystem functions, especially as the two prior elements in this list focus on the ecosystem and do not refer to, e.g., abiotic components of the marine environment, except through their linkages with biotic components generally focused on when assessing ecosystem status. We noted proposals to include ecological balance in prior drafts of these regulations. This is required for the Exploitation Regulations to adequately implement UNCLOS to protect and preserve the marine environment. We will submit additional proposals re inclusion of the ecological balance requirement in these regulations, including Annex IV, and other textual proposals, to the Secretariat.