

ISA 29th Session, Part II – Reading of the Draft Consolidated Text

Oral Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany

Delivered in July 2024

Regulation 101 bis - Whistle-blowing procedures

We note the proposed deletion in the consolidated draft and the move to the suspense document. We can support the setting out the details of a whistle-blowing procedure in a general policy, as long as we have assurance that whistle-blowing procedures will be in place before any mineral exploitation begins, and we have a reference to such whistle-blowing procedures in the regulations.

So, regulation 101bis can simply anticipate such whistle-blowing procedures using simple language. We propose as such: “Any complaints received from whistle-blowers shall be dealt with under the mechanisms and procedures established by the Authority for this purpose”.

We would like to hear the views of others on whether the whistle-blowing procedures should be developed as a general policy of the Authority, a specific policy of the Council, or a Standard. In any case, until a decision is taken to establish this mechanism and there is a clear plan to get there, we would like to see DR 101bis with a note that the current draft text is in the suspense document. This is crucial so we do not lose sight of this important topic on our to-do list, which is a priority for Germany.