

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

Oral Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany

Delivered in July 2024

Regulation 35 – Human remains

Regarding **paragraph 1**, we support the inclusion of bracketed text (“without undue delay”).

Furthermore, like Costa Rica, we hold the view that ANY findings of human remains should be reported so that the Authority can determine whether the remains are of “archaeological or historical nature”. We do not believe that the Contractor is best placed to make such determination.

We do not support the last sentence of **paragraph 1**, which suggests that contractors should receive compensation for values that cannot be retrieved from the Area due to archaeological or historical interests.

Germany also wishes to reiterate that we support the inclusion of intangible cultural heritage in the regulations. We therefore believe DR 35 should sit alongside other potentially forthcoming provisions on cultural heritage, as is currently under discussion within the intersessional working group on underwater cultural heritage.