

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

Oral Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany

Delivered in July 2024

Regulation 53 - Emergency Response and Contingency Plan

With regards to draft **regulation 53, paragraph 1**, we are flexible on some of the proposed alternative text proposals, as long as it is clearly stipulated that an Emergency Response and Contingency Plan has been developed and is submitted as part of an application by a contractor in accordance with the relevant Standard and taking into account the relevant Guidelines. We believe that the results of an Environmental Impact Assessment should be considered when preparing such a plan and would therefore ask for the reinsertion of the relevant text.

In **sub-paragraph (a)**, we support the inclusion of the text elements currently contained in brackets.

In **paragraph 3**, we are missing stipulations on several aspects: first, it seems appropriate to set out a timeline for the submission of an incident report, e.g. at the latest three months after the incident has ended; second, there is no information regarding who such an incident report shall be submitted to - e.g. the Commission or the Compliance Committee; lastly, we also consider it appropriate to clarify what should happen after the submission of a report and suggest that it should be reviewed with a view to assessing whether any modifications to the Emergency Response and Contingency Plan or the Plan of Work may be required.

Lastly, we are wondering whether Part IV of the regulations (on 'Protection and Preservation of the Marine Environment') is the appropriate placement for this draft regulation as there may be emergencies that are not related to environmental matters.