

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

### Oral Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany

Delivered in July 2024

#### **Regulation 53bis (previously DR 49alt) - Pollution control**

Germany requests deletion of the words “*directly resulting*”. The current text requires prevention, reduction and control of pollution “*directly resulting*” from activities in the Area. However, such a narrow restriction is not in line with Articles 145 and 194 of the Convention, which establish a broad and far-reaching obligation to prevent, control, and reduce pollution.

Furthermore, we support the inclusion of the red text that refers to “*harmful effects, in accordance with Article 145 of the Convention*”.

As stated by others today and in previous discussions, we support the reference to “*other hazards*” as well as specifically naming “*marine litter and underwater noise*”. We note that this received broad support from many states last year and we are hence concerned that this text remains crossed out. As for correct drafting, marine litter and underwater noise would need to be highlighted as particular types of pollution, not as “*other hazards*”.

Lastly, we suggest adding the word “*including*” in line 3, after the word “*Convention*”. This is to indicate that Art 145 is broader than only pollution. It would highlight that this draft regulation, while focusing on pollution, does not disregard the other obligations under Article 145.