

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

Oral Statement by the Federal Republic of Germany

Delivered in July 2024

Regulation 54 – Establishment of an ECF

In **paragraph 2**, Germany sees it as important that the rules and procedures for the Fund must be established before the approval of the first exploitation contract and not only before the start of commercial production. The simple explanation is that prospective applicants and future contractors must be made aware upfront what requirements they must meet - and demonstrate that they are able to meet those requirements - as imposed by the regulations, including obligations relating to the ECF. Moreover, the Applicant/Contractor, as well as the LTC and the Council, need to know the financial requirements for the fund before assessing an applicant's capabilities and financial resources. Without knowing how much a Contractor will have to pay into the Fund, the LTC simply cannot assess whether the applicant has sufficient financial resources.

As for the rest of DR 54, Germany supports the inclusion of **paragraphs 1 and 3** as well as the listed **sub-paragraph 2(a) – (h)**.