

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 30<sup>TH</sup> SESSION:  
COUNCIL - PART I**

Please fill out one form for each textual proposal which your delegation(s) wish(es) to amend, add or delete and send to [council@isa.org.jm](mailto:council@isa.org.jm).

**1. Name(s) of Delegation(s) making the proposal:**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands and Norway

**2. Please indicate the relevant provision to which the textual proposal refers.**

DR98

**3. Kindly provide the proposed amendments to the regulation or standard or guideline in the text box below, using the “track changes” function in Microsoft Word. Please only reproduce the parts of the text that are being amended or deleted.**

Green are track changes in the original text. The track changes highlighted in yellow represent our suggestions.

**Regulation 98 [IWG ICE]**

**Inspectors’ powers**

1. An Inspector may, for the purposes of monitoring or enforcing compliance with the rRules, regulations and procedures of the Authority and the terms of the Exploitation Contract:

(a) Question any [relevant] person who is deemed relevant by the Inspector and engaged by the Contractor in the conduct of [Exploration and] Exploitation activities on any matter [regulated by] ~~[to which]~~ the rRules, regulations and procedures of the Authority relate;

(a) bis Conduct an announced or unannounced, remote, virtual or onsite visit to the ship and installations used by the Contractor;

**4. Please indicate the rationale for the proposal. [150-word limit]**

Paragraph 1(a): The word ‘relevant’ raises the question who has the authority to determine if a person is deemed relevant. The proposed changes answer this question and therefore makes this paragraph more clear.

Paragraph 1(a)bis: This Draft Regulation has to be more future-proof. There are several examples of manners in which inspections can take place other than an actual onsite visit. Think about performing inspections by reviewing digital twins or through videoconferencing. Additionally, remote monitoring – for example through remote operating vehicles like aerial or nautical drones –

may become much more prevalent in the offshore industry. Future-proofing these Draft Regulations is essential for regulating the deep sea mining industry, where Contractors are already using state-of-the-art technology. The Inspectorate should be able to keep on par with the industry's state-of-the-art technology and any new developments. Therefore, this also requires a certain level of flexibility under the rules, regulations and procedures. New paragraph (a)bis is therefore proposed.