

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 29TH SESSION:
COUNCIL - PART II**

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.

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

Republic of Nauru

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

Regulation 48

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.

2. The Environmental Impact Statement shall document and report the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment carried out in accordance with Regulation 47 ~~ter~~ and shall provide the ~~[International-Seabed]~~ Authority, its member States and other Stakeholders with ~~unambiguous-clear~~ documentation of the potential Environmental Effects based on ~~[the-Best-Available-Scientific-Information,]~~ Best Environmental Practices, ~~[and-Best-Available-Techniques,]~~ and Good Industry Practice ~~[on-which-the-Authority-can-base-its-decision,-and-any-subsequent-approval-that-may-be-granted].~~

3. The Environmental Impact Statement shall be in a form prescribed by the Authority in the ~~applicable relevant~~ Standard and ~~in-accordance-with-the-relevant taking-into-consideration-the-applicable~~ Guidelines, ~~[and shall]:~~

~~[(e) Be peer reviewed by competent independent experts, before submission,]~~

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

In respect of the benchmark for the Environmental Impact Statement, paragraph (2) requires the provision of “unambiguous” documentation. It is unclear who would determine, objectively what is ‘ambiguous’ in this context. We would suggest replacing “unambiguous” with the word “clear”.

We consider sub-paragraph 3(e) is unclear as to what is required for a “peer review by competent independent experts”. That is, whether having independent experts on staff would meet this requirement, or whether an independent expert panel will be required to ‘sign off’ on Environmental Impact Statements. We would suggest that this language is either removed or that the standards and guidelines clarify this to mean that an Environmental Impact Statement should involve independent experts, who may be employees of or contracted to contractors.