

**TEMPLATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TEXTUAL PROPOSALS DURING THE 30TH 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:

China

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

Regulation 44 bis

Regional Environmental Management Plans

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.

1. The Council may request the Commission to prepare a Regional Environmental Management Plan for the regional areas where activities in the Area are likely to take place, for consideration and adoption by the Council.

21. The Commission shall only consider an application for a Plan of Work if a Regional Environmental Management Plan has been adopted by the Council for the particular area and type of resource concerned [in line with the Council approved procedures and template].

2bis. As a general rule, a Regional Environmental Management Plan for a specific area shall be finalized prior to the expiry of the first exploration contract in that area.

32. In the event that an application for a Plan of Work is submitted for an area where no such Regional Environmental Management Plan exists, the drafting of a Regional Environmental Management Plan applicable to the area in concern shall be ~~prioritised and adopted without any undue delay, taking into account Section 2, Article b and c of the Agreement~~ prioritized. If such Regional Environmental Management Plan has not been adopted by the Council within 2 years after the submission of an application of a Plan of Work, the Commission shall consider the application for decision without delay, and the Council shall expedite in parallel the formulation of such Regional Environmental Management Plan.

3 bis. The Council shall, based on the recommendations of the Commission, adopt the rules, regulations and procedures in relation to the development, establishment and review of Regional Environmental Management Plans.

Formatted: Font: Times New Roman, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Character scale: 103%, Expanded by 0.2 pt, Kern at 7 pt

Formatted: Font: Times New Roman, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, Character scale: 103%, Expanded by 0.2 pt, Kern at 7 pt

Formatted: Font: Times New Roman, 10 pt, Font color: Auto, English (Trinidad and Tobago), Character scale: 103%, Expanded by 0.2 pt, Kern at 7 pt

Formatted: Font:

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

1. The development of the REMP is the responsibility of the International Seabed Authority rather than the responsibility of the contractors. If the consideration and approval of plans of work were to be delayed due to the lack of REMP, it would undermine the legitimate rights and interests of contractors. Considering that current

REMP is only available in CCZ and no REMF exists in other regions, such inconsistency will create inequity and discrimination among contractors in different regions, which contradicts the provision and spirit of the UNCLOS. Thus, it is necessary to establish a two-year timeframe for the formulation of the REMF from the submission of a plan of work. And for the same rationale, it is suggested to insert paragraph 2 bis to establish a general timeframe for the formulation of the REMF.