

**COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY**  
**Intersessional work (19 July 2025 – 8 March 2026)**  
v. 6 November 2025

**INFORMAL WORKING GROUPS**

| <i>Focus</i>  | <i>Facilitator</i>                                  | <i>Documents</i>  | <i>Activity/Meetings/Deadlines</i>  |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Effective control<br><i>(Cross-cutting issues and draft regulations 5, 6, 13, 21, 24 and 40, annex I, sect. I, para. 13 ter, definition in schedule)</i> | Chile and Costa Rica                                |   |   |
| 2. Inspection, compliance and enforcement mechanism<br><i>(Draft regulation 102)</i>  | Norway  |   |   |
| 3. Equalization measure<br><i>(Draft regulation 64 bis and draft equalization standard)</i>   | Australia   |   |   |
| 4. Rights and interests of coastal States<br><i>(Cross-cutting issues)</i>  | Portugal and Singapore                              |   |   |
| 5. Underwater cultural heritage<br><i>(Cross-cutting issues, including draft regulations 35 and 35 alt)</i>   | Brazil, Greece and Micronesia (Federated States of) | <a href="#">Second revision of the comprehensive set of draft textual proposals on UCH</a><br><br><a href="#">Third revision of the co-facilitators' document on UCH.</a> | Deadline for objections on the proposed schedule (below), <b>31 October 2025</b> .<br><br>Proposed schedule:<br>1) meeting on <b>6 November 2025</b> at 8pm EST (i.e., New York time) and a meeting on <b>7 November 2025</b> at 8am EST.<br><br>(two meetings in this set to accommodate different time zones) |

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|--|------------------------------|---|--|
|  |                              |   | <p>2) meeting on <b>24 November 2025</b> at 8pm EST and on <b>25 November 2025</b> at 8am EST.</p> <p>(two meetings in this set to accommodate different time zones)</p> <p>Deadline for submission of any (additional) inputs on the current Rev. 2 of the UCH document and/or on UCH matters in general, by <b>22 October 2024</b>.</p>  |
| 6. Environmental management and monitoring<br><i>(Sect. 3 of part IV, draft regulations 49–52 and annex VII)</i> | Norway                       |   |  |
| 7. Test mining<br><i>(Draft regulations 48 ter and 48 ter alt.)</i>  | Belgium, China and Germany   |   |  |
| 8. Closure plans<br><i>(Part VI, draft regulations 59–61)</i>  | Fiji                         |   |  |
| 9. Reference to regional environmental management plans (REMPS)<br><i>(Cross-cutting issues)</i>                 | Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | <p><a href="#">Report of the Fourth Meeting, 9 October 2025.</a></p> <p><a href="mailto:emma.vanden.boogaard@minienw.nl">emma.vanden.boogaard@minienw.nl</a></p> <p><a href="#">Draft report of the intersessional work.</a></p> <p><a href="#">Draft textual proposal.</a></p> | <p>Fourth Meeting, <b>9 October 2025</b>.</p> <p>Deadline for written comments: <b>20 October 2025</b>.</p> <p>Facilitators will circulate revised draft <b>22/23 October 2025</b>.</p> <p>Fifth meeting, <b>29 October 2025</b>.</p> <p>Deadline written comments, <b>31 October 2025</b>.</p> <p>After <b>31 October 2025</b>, facilitators will circulate a new draft – short round of comments for mainly small textual changes.</p> <p>Deadline for comments to the draft report of the intersessional work and the draft textual proposal, <b>12 November 2025</b>.</p> <p>Submission to the Secretariat of the report of the intersessional work and the textual proposal, <b>14 November 2025</b>.</p> |

## FRIENDS OF THE PRESIDENT

| <i>Focus</i>  | <i>Facilitator</i>  | <i>Documents</i>   | <i>Activity/Meetings/Deadlines</i>   |
|---|---|--|--|
| 1. Submarine cable protection<br>(Draft regulations 31 and 31bis)                       | Singapore<br><a href="mailto:beatrice_chen@mti.gov.sg">beatrice_chen@mti.gov.sg</a>                               | <a href="#">Report of the meeting, 15 July 2025.</a><br><a href="#">Revised proposal for DRs 31 and 31 bis, 16 July 2025.</a>  | Deadline for written comments on the revised proposal for DRs 31 and 31 bis, <b>20 October 2025.</b>   |
| 2. Review of payment mechanism<br>(Draft regulations 81 and 82, and relevant Standards) | Canada<br><a href="mailto:jose.benchetrit@rncan.gc.ca">jose.benchetrit@rncan.gc.ca</a>                            | <a href="#">Draft text for DRs 81 and 82, 4 November 2025.</a>   | Two meeting times (to accommodate participants across multiple time zones):<br><br>Tuesday, <b>18 November 2025</b> , 19:00 (Jamaica).<br>Wednesday, <b>19 November 2025</b> , 09:00 (Jamaica).  |
| 3. Modification of a Plan of Work by a Contractor<br>(Draft regulation 57)              | United Kingdom<br><a href="mailto:fraser.janeczko@fcdo.gov.uk">fraser.janeczko@fcdo.gov.uk</a>                    | <a href="#">DR 57 proposal by UK</a><br><a href="#">DR 57 explainer by UK</a><br><a href="#">Revised proposal for DR 57, 26 September 2025.</a><br><a href="#">Review of comments during July 2025 Council, 26 September 2025.</a><br><a href="#">Further revised proposal for DR 57, 5 November 2025.</a> | Deadline for written comments on revised proposal for DR 57, COB <b>17 October 2025.</b><br><br>Final comments to the “Further revised proposal for DR 57, 5 November 2025”, before <b>28 November 2025</b> , when this textual proposal is expected to be submitted to the Secretariat. |
| 4. Environmental Compensation Fund<br>(Draft regulations 54, 55 and 56)                 | Mexico<br><a href="mailto:enoriega@sre.gob.mx">enoriega@sre.gob.mx</a>  | <a href="#">Report and revised text proposals DRs 54, 55, 56, 5 November 2025.</a>   | Deadline for written comments on “Report and revised text proposals DRs 54, 55, 56”, <b>17 November 2025.</b>  |
| 5. Seabed Mining Register<br>(Draft regulation 92)                                      | India   |  |  |
| 6. Prevention of corruption<br>(Draft Regulation 40)                                    | Netherlands<br>(Kingdom of the)<br><a href="mailto:oliver.whitehead@mi.nbuza.nl">oliver.whitehead@mi.nbuza.nl</a> | <a href="#">DR 40 proposal by Netherlands, 16 September 2025</a>   | Deadline written comments on draft text DR 40, <b>17 October 2025.</b>   |

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|--|---|---|---|
| 7. Environmental Goals and Objectives<br>(Draft Regulation 44ter)  | Germany<br><a href="mailto:klaus.lucke@uba.de">klaus.lucke@uba.de</a>   | <a href="#">DR 44ter on Environmental Goals and Objectives</a><br><a href="#">DR 44ter proposal by Germany, 18 September 2025</a><br><a href="#">DR 44ter revised draft text, 9 October 2025.</a> | 1st online meeting, <b>Thu, 16 October 2025, at 9am CET</b> (12:30pm Delhi/6pm Sydney/7pm Suva/1am San Jose), with a duration of one hour.  |
| 8. Non-Compliance Notice, Suspension, and Termination of Exploitation Contract<br>(Draft Regulation 103) | Netherlands<br>(Kingdom of the)<br><a href="mailto:fleur.pennarts@minienw.nl">fleur.pennarts@minienw.nl</a> ; <a href="mailto:emma.vanden.boogaard@minienw.nl">emma.vanden.boogaard@minienw.nl</a> ; <a href="mailto:oliver.whitehead@minbuza.nl">oliver.whitehead@minbuza.nl</a> | <a href="#">DR 103 - Discussion paper, 17 October 2025.</a>   | First virtual meetings, <b>22 October 2025</b> . To allow delegations from different time zones to attend (same content), (1) <b>3:00 AM (Jamaica)</b> and (2) <b>11 AM (Jamaica)</b> on that date. |