

**COUNCIL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEABED AUTHORITY**  
**Intersessional work (19 July 2025 – 8 March 2026)**  
v. 13 November 2025

**INFORMAL WORKING GROUPS**

| <i>Focus</i>                                                                                                                                         | <i>Facilitator</i>                                                                                                | <i>Documents</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <i>Activity/Meetings/Deadlines</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| 1. Effective control<br>(Cross-cutting issues and draft regulations 5, 6, 13, 21, 24 and 40, annex I, sect. I, para. 13 ter, definition in schedule) | Chile and Costa Rica                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2. Inspection, compliance and enforcement mechanism<br>(Draft regulation 102)                                                                        | Norway                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 3. Equalization measure<br>(Draft regulation 64 bis and draft equalization standard)                                                                 | Australia                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 4. Rights and interests of coastal States<br>(Cross-cutting issues)                                                                                  | Portugal and Singapore                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 5. Underwater cultural heritage<br>(Cross-cutting issues, including draft regulations 35 and 35 alt)                                                 | Brazil, Greece and Micronesia (Federated States of)<br><a href="mailto:cmulalap@gmail.com">cmulalap@gmail.com</a> | <a href="#">Second revision of the comprehensive set of draft textual proposals on UCH</a><br><a href="#">Third revision of the co-facilitators' document on UCH.</a><br><a href="#">Fourth non-paper by Spain on DR35, 24 October 2025.</a> | Deadline for objections on the proposed schedule (below), <b>31 October 2025</b> .<br><br>Proposed schedule:<br><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) |

| <i>Focus</i>                                                                                              | <i>Facilitator</i>                                                                                                       | <i>Documents</i>                                                                                                                                                        | <i>Activity/Meetings/Deadlines</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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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>(Sect. 3 of part IV, draft regulations 49–52 and annex VII) | Norway                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 7. Test mining<br>(Draft regulations 48 ter and 48 ter alt.)                                              | Belgium, China and Germany<br><br><a href="mailto:Tim.Packeiser@bmukn.bund.de">Tim.Packeiser@bmukn.bund.de</a>           | <a href="#">Original joint proposal, March 2025</a> .                                                                                                                   | <p>Online meeting, 10 October 2025.</p> <p>Deadline for proposals and explanatory comments on the <i>original joint proposal</i>, <b>21 November 2025</b>.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 8. Closure plans<br>(Part VI, draft regulations 59–61)                                                    | Fiji                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 9. Reference to regional environmental management plans (REMPS)<br>(Cross-cutting issues)                 | Netherlands (Kingdom of the)<br><br><a href="mailto:emma.vanden.boogaard@minienw.nl">emma.vanden.boogaard@minienw.nl</a> | <a href="#">Report of the Fourth Meeting, 9 October 2025</a> .<br><a href="#">Draft report of the intersessional work</a> .<br><a href="#">Draft textual proposal</a> . | <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> |

| <i>Focus</i> | <i>Facilitator</i> | <i>Documents</i> | <i>Activity/Meetings/Deadlines</i>                                                                                         |
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|              |                    |                  | Submission to the Secretariat of the report of the intersessional work and the textual proposal, <b>14 November 2025</b> . |

## 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@nrcan-rncan.gc.ca">jose.benchetrit@nrcan-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>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>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                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

| <i>Focus</i>                                                                                             | <i>Facilitator</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <i>Documents</i>                                                                                                                                                                                   | <i>Activity/Meetings/Deadlines</i>                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| 6. Prevention of corruption<br>(Draft Regulation 40)                                                     | Netherlands<br>(Kingdom of the)<br><a href="mailto:oliver.whitehead@minbuza.nl">oliver.whitehead@minbuza.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> .                                                                                                                             |
| 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.vandenboogaard@minienw.nl">emma.vandenboogaard@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. |