

Regulation 92

Seabed Mining Register

1. The Secretary-General shall establish, maintain and publish a Seabed Mining Register in accordance with the applicable Standards and taking into account the Guidelines.

1. bis The Seabed Mining Register shall contain the following information except to the extent it is Confidential Information in accordance with regulations 89(4) and 90(1) which shall be redacted:

(a) the names of the Contractor [and the names] and addresses including contact number and email of their Designated Representatives;]

(b) copy of original application for approval of Plan of Work and the accompanying documents submitted by each Contractor in accordance with Regulation 7 [as well as revisions to any such documents, comments received pursuant to Regulation 11, responses to Stakeholder consultation, reports and recommendations of the Commission, and the decision of the Council on the approval of the Plan of Work], [[including any modifications to any documents of the original application, [comments and responses of Stakeholder's consultation,] report and recommendation of the Commission, and decision of the Council on the approval of Plan of Work;]]

(c) [copy of the Exploitation Contract signed by the Authority and each Contractor containing its schedules in accordance with Regulation 17 including approved Plan of Work, the geographical extent of Contract Areas and Mining Areas and the category of Resources;] [A copy of each Exploitation Contract including its Schedules in accordance with Regulation 17;]

(d) any encumbrances regarding the Exploitation Contract made in accordance with Regulation 22 and Instruments of Transfer or Assignment in accordance with regulation 23;

(e) [Feasibility Study, consultation report on Feasibility Study and revision [revised] of Plan of Work, if any prior to Commercial Production in accordance with Regulation 25] [Any Feasibility Study and related documents prepared in accordance with Regulation 25], and details of Environmental Performance Guarantee lodged pursuant to regulation 26, [and date of commencement of Commercial Production] [and information about the actual date of commencement of Commercial Production, if applicable];

(f) copy of each annual report submitted by each Contractor in accordance with regulation 38 including details of any Incidents and Notifiable Events, summary of [discharges] [Mining Discharges], [and a summary of any action taken by a Contractor, Sponsoring State and the Authority in inspection and compliance matters] [and action taken in inspection and compliance matters];

(g) [copies of each Contractor's documents validating, the Environmental Performance Guarantee;] lodged pursuant to regulation 26 with information about its details;

(h) all payments made by Contractor to the Authority under these Regulations and copies of royalty returns submitted in accordance with Regulation 71;

(i) Beneficial Ownership Registry and Financial Incentives Registry pursuant to Regulation 63;

(j) [any modifications to the approved Plan of Work and its periodic review report including recommendations of the Commission and decision of the Council for each Contract pursuant to regulations 57 and 58] [Any modification to a Plan of Work pursuant to Regulation 57 and the findings and recommendations resulting from a Review of a Plan of Work pursuant to Regulation 58];

(k) copy of each recommendation by the Commission and Council decision to extend, suspend or terminate of an Exploitation Contract;

(l) copy of Closure Plan and its updates including the [Final Closure Plan], and implementation report of [Final] Closure Plan for each Contract Area;

[(p) copies of all reports and recommendations of the Commission and decisions of the Council and notices issued by the Secretary General relating to each Contract Area, before, during or after application for a Plan of Work and throughout the term of the Exploitation Contract; and]

(q) any other document, information and other details as may be directed by the Council from time to time.

2. The Seabed Mining Register shall be publicly available [accessible] [online] on the Authority's website.

3. The Secretary-General shall publish any information of a type listed in paragraph (1) in the Seabed Mining Register within seven days of receipt, unless prevented from doing so for good cause, in which case publication shall occur as soon as reasonably practicable.

Facilitator's Note:

The support of all delegations contributing to the FoP DR 92 Seabed Mining Register and their participation in the FoP DR 92 thematic issues meeting held in March 2026 during first part of the 30th session of the Council meeting is thankfully acknowledged.

Many delegations during March 2026 meeting acknowledged that overall improvement of the DR 92 through FoP work.

FoP DR 92 SMR (India) is grateful for the on-floor comments noted during the March meeting and textual submission and comments received thereafter. Based on the above the compiled version of FoP DR 92 SMR is attached.

The textual submissions received are mainly proposed for refining the DR 92.

- The refining text proposed for replacement against the previous text, both are kept as bracketed text for discussion.
- Any deletion or any new insertion proposed are kept under bracketed text.
- Some double bracketed text indicates within the bracketed text deletion or insertion was proposed.

Comments of the delegations regarding capitalization of defined terms, cross referencing of the para to the applicable DR, following uniform style for singular or plural and avoiding repetition, have been include in the revised DR 92.

Some overarching comments noted during the March 2026 meeting given below:

1. DR 92 should accommodate two separate register format for each contract like one for general information related and another for core contractual & application documents related.
2. DR 92 should ensure consistency of the documents between exploration and exploitation phases.
3. SMR should not be limited to simple repository of information also should work as a legal tool for the Authority.

Moreover, the working group on UCH have indicated that they are discussing for inclusion of UCH related matter in the Seabed Mining Register and appropriate language will be provided after discussion in the WG meeting, which to be included in due course.

Delegations are requested provide their views on the above noted comments.

Based on the comments of one delegation before March 2026 meeting, the list mentioned para 1bis, a to q were arranged as much as possible to keep sequence of documents for an exploitation contract. Facilitator thinks the document should be available online for each contract-wise separately and following uniform sequence. Views of delegation is requested on the former and if agreed, proposal for insertion of appropriate word or phrase in para I bis is requested.

There was a general consensus for cross referencing across the exploitation regulations referring the matter to be included in the SMR and mentioning the same as a para of the respective DR. In line with that further discussion may be required for the relevant text related to SMR in the respective DRs, which may be taken up for discussion under this FoP's work, if agreed by the Council.

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