



Intervention during the Informal Working Group on the Protection and preservation of the Marine Environment – Facilitator’s text (VII).

Madam facilitator,

Before providing specific comments, DOSI would like to request some clarifications regarding these annexes.

First of all, in line with the comments by New Zealand, we would like to ask why the template for a preparation of an EIS is included in the regulations, and not in the Standards and Guidelines, in document ([ISBA/27/C/5](#)), together with the further details regarding the EIS.

Second, if the intent of these annexes is to provide enough detail for Contractors to carry out the various components of the Plan of Work, then this needs to be fleshed out in greater detail. If the intent of this Annex is merely to provide a template with substantive instructions to follow in Standards, then that should be made clearer. Just as an example, Regarding section 4.6, several essential physical oceanographic characteristics were left out of this description.

Finally, we ask for clarification on the mandatory or recommendatory nature nature of the template, since, as suggested in the document, sections 1 and 2 below seem currently contradictory on this aspect

We will provide further comments in written form if appropriate