

Speaker: Mr Daniele Bosio

Informal Working Group on Inspection Compliance and Enforcement

Madam Facilitator,

As on-site inspections could be difficult to be regularly conducted because of the remoteness of the areas where Deep Sea mining is conducted, we do agree on the use of remote monitoring systems.

In this respect we look forward to reading the **Technical study the Secretariat will deliver before the July session** to make more substantial comments on that point.

For now, we just underline that experience of inspection mechanisms, in particular in the oil&gas sector for deep-sea drilling, could provide a valuable contribution to the definition of appropriate state-of-the-art guidelines in this sector.

We would like to see the development of remote monitoring guidelines as a high priority in the progressing of the draft regulations. Such technology, including from satellite earth observation, will be essential in seabed mining where direct and large inspection of the mining process is limited not only by the great depths but also by the extent of the exploited area.

Such monitoring should be ensured during the whole lifecycle of the activity as well as before (to ensure that baseline conditions are adequately understood) and after (to ensure long term monitoring of the impacts of the activities and safety for the environment).

We also align with France on the reference to States in DR 102 (4). We need clarification on which States are referred to, also considering the possibility that some of the data could be confidential. The confidentiality should be appropriately balanced with transparency and the need to acquire data for the preservation of marine environment