

Attachment 1: Guidance on DSM roles and responsibilities for the SPREP Secretariat and Members

	Secretariat	Members
Ocean governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote an integrated ocean management approach that facilitates sustainable use of multiple marine resources, biodiversity conservation and social-ecological resilience, especially in the face of climate change. Build members' awareness of obligations under international and regional MEAs and associated policy frameworks e.g. UNCLOS, CBD, CMS, IMO Conventions, Noumea Convention, Framework for a Pacific Oceanscape, ABS, and current negotiations on BBNJ. Assist members with database development and administration for effective marine information management. Support Members' engagement with the International Seabed Authority (ISA). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage deep sea mining activities within an integrated ocean management approach. Meet signatory obligations under international and regional MEAs and associated policy frameworks. Apply the precautionary approach to deep sea mining planning, assessment and decision-making, in line with the level of uncertainty and risk of harm for different marine contexts. In applying the precautionary approach give consideration to the implementation of a range of practical measures such as a moratorium on deep sea mining; the creation of marine protected areas that delineate mining exclusion and buffer zones; and pilot mining approaches that permit resource exploitation to proceed on a smaller scale or for short, defined periods of time, in line with an adaptive management framework. Consider application of the 'polluter pays' principle to the management of deep sea mining activities.
Environmental Impact Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop EIA guidance materials in collaboration with the SPC-EU DSM Project. Support EIA capacity-building within environment agencies, in line with the agencies' responsibility for managing national EIA processes. Provide technical support and oversight for EIAs for deep sea mining activities, e.g. assist with project scoping and terms of reference development; review of EIA reports; development of environmental management plans and environmental monitoring protocols. Work with relevant international (ISA), regional (CROP agencies), sub-regional (e.g. Melanesian Spearhead Group) and national authorities (e.g. environment, natural resource management/mining, fisheries agencies) to help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the distribution of responsibilities and areas of overlap between EIA and DSM legislation, to ensure environment and natural resource management/mining agencies have a clear understanding of their respective regulatory roles and functions, and to encourage the development of good inter-agency working relationships that support effective EIA processes. Implement effective, transparent and rigorous EIA processes that comprehensively assess all known and possible impacts of deep sea mining across oceanic, atmospheric, climatic, terrestrial, geological, biological, social, economic and cultural dimensions. When applying EIA and issuing approvals give attention to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the presentation of relevant baseline data for deep sea development sites and broader horizontal and vertical ocean zones, to develop sound understanding of existing environmental conditions and potential impacts;

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	<p>establish a framework for EIA in ABNJ.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate the regional working group on EIA and SEA for ABNJ, in collaboration with PIFS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the management of waste outputs, which is expected to be one of the most significant environmental management challenges for deep sea mining; - the implementation of comprehensive, independent environmental monitoring programmes, which objectively evaluate the impacts of mining on the marine environment and that involve regular presentation and discussion of results with regulatory authorities; and - the whole operational life cycle, from prospecting to mining, to the processing and concentration of extracted material, to the rehabilitation and closure of mined sites. Although the processing and concentration of mineralised material may not occur within the jurisdiction of PICTs it must be considered by PICT regulatory authorities because it is an activity that can have serious, detrimental impacts if poorly managed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with relevant international (ISA), regional (CROP agencies), sub-regional (e.g. Melanesian Spearhead Group) and national authorities (e.g. environment, natural resources, fisheries agencies) to help establish a framework for EIA in ABNJ.
Marine Spatial Planning (MSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support capacity-building and provide technical advice and support for the application of MSP within member countries, to encourage deep sea mining activities to be embedded within an integrated ocean management framework that considers multiple marine resources and users. • Seek funding and resources for national and/or regional MSP pilot studies to help inform broad-scale marine resource use planning, assessment and decision-making. • Assist members with the review of marine areas identified to meet the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant areas (EBSAs) and determine if: (a) the EBSAs overlap with potential DSM sites, (b) enhanced conservation and management measures are required to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use tools such as MSP to manage deep sea mining within an integrated ocean management framework. These tools should ideally be applied <i>prior to</i> the issuing of deep sea mining licences. • Review marine areas identified to meet the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant areas (EBSAs) and determine if: (a) the EBSAs overlap with potential DSM sites, (b) enhanced conservation and management measures are required to ensure adequate protection for the EBSAs, (c) there are special commitments that need to be met under national laws (e.g. EIA) or regional or international MEAs (e.g. UNCLOS)

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	<p>ensure adequate protection for the EBSAs, (c) there are special commitments that need to be met under national laws (e.g. EIA) or regional or international MEAs (e.g. UNCLOS).</p>	
Liaising/ Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate SPREP Members' input into deep sea mining discussions through the Marine Sector Working Group and the Sustainable Development Working Group. • Participate in SPC-EU DSM Project activities and respond to Project outputs as required. • Provide support to the Pacific Oceanscape, Pacific Oceans Commissioner and Office and actively participate in the Pacific Ocean's Alliance • Actively establish and maintain professional networks to stay informed of the latest knowledge and information pertaining to deep sea ecosystems and developments in the deep sea mining sector. • Actively engage with the work of the ISA, e.g. respond to ISA working papers and other outputs, and participate in technical working groups as required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in SPC-EU DSM Project activities and respond to Project outputs as required. • Actively establish and maintain professional networks to stay informed of the latest knowledge and information pertaining to deep sea ecosystems and developments in the deep sea mining sector. • Seek support from CROP agencies and independent experts to help build public confidence in deep sea mining assessment and decision-making. • Actively engage with the work of the ISA, e.g. respond to ISA working papers and other outputs, and participate in technical working groups as required.