Japan: working paper on conditions of exploration and exploitation

This working paper is intended to outline the preliminary position of the Japanese delegation on a number of essential points concerning conditions of exploration and exploitation which, in our view, should be included as an integral part in this Convention as an appendix or other appropriate form.

The Japanese delegation is aware of certain difficulties involved in drafting, in the Law of the Sea Conference, a complete set of rules for conditions of exploration and exploitation. The conditions contained herein are therefore not exhaustive.

Basic rules and regulations regarding the conditions of exploration and exploitation

I. Activities to be regulated

All activities of exploration and exploitation shall be carried out through either registration or contracts with the Authority in conformity with the provisions of this Convention and the rules and regulations contained herein (hereinafter referred to as the "Rules"). Such activities shall be divided into three phases:

(i) General survey
(ii) Development activities
   (a) Evaluation
   (b) Exploitation

II. Eligible entities

Only the following entities may register or conclude contracts with the Authority for the purpose of conducting general survey, evaluation and exploitation:

(a) Contracting Parties,
(b) group of Contracting Parties, and
(c) natural or juridical persons of such a Party or Parties