

**Case concerning the Maritime Delimitation in the Area between Greenland and Jan  
Mayen (Denmark, Norway), International Court of Justice  
14 June 1993**

The delimitation line is to lie between the median line and the 200-mile line from the baselines of eastern Greenland. It will run from point A in the north, the point of intersection of those two lines, to a point on the 200-mile line drawn from the baselines claimed by Iceland, between points D and B on sketch-map No. 2 (p. 80 below). For the purposes of definition of the line, and with a view to making proper provision for equitable access to fishery resources, the area of overlapping claims will be divided into three zones, as follows, Greenland's 200-mile line (between points A and B on sketch-map No. 2) shows two marked changes of direction, indicated on the sketch-map as points I and J; similarly the median line shows two corresponding changes of direction, marked as points K and L. Straight lines drawn between point I and point K, and between point J and point L, thus divide the area of overlapping claims into three zones, to be referred to, successively from south to north, as zone 1, zone 2 and zone 3.

The southernmost zone, zone 1, corresponds essentially to the principal fishing area referred to in paragraph 73 above. In the view of the Court, the two Parties should enjoy equitable access to the fishing resources of this zone. For this purpose a point, to be designated point M, is identified on the 200-mile line claimed by Iceland between points B and 13, and equidistant from those points, and a line is drawn from point M so as to intersect the line between point J and L, at a point designated point N, so as to divide zone 1 into two parts of equal area. The dividing line is shown on sketch-map No. 2 as the line between points N and M. So far as zones 2 and 3 are concerned, it is a question of drawing the appropriate conclusions, in the application of equitable principles from the circumstance of the marked disparity in coastal lengths, discussed in paragraphs 61 to 71 above. The Court considers that an equal division of the whole area of overlapping claims would give too great a weight to this circumstance. Taking into account the equal division of zone 1, it considers that the requirements of equity would be met by the following division of the remainder of the area of overlapping claims: a point (O on sketch-map No. 2) is to be determined on the line between I and K such that the distance from I to O is twice the distance from O to K; the delimitation of zones 2 and 3 is then effected by the straight line from point N to this point O, and the straight line from point O to point A.

The co-ordinates of the various points mentioned have been calculated as follows on the basis of the information supplied by each Party to the Court as to the base points on the coasts of its territory, and are included here for the information of the Parties:

(World Geodetic System, 1984)

Latitude North	Longitude West	
74° 21' 46.9	5° 00' 27.7	= A
72° 28' 35.9	9° 23' 09.4"	= I
71° 32' 58.4	11° 11' 23.6	= J
69° 34' 43.3	12° 09' 25.5	= B
69° 38' 26.8	12° 43' 21.1	= C
70° 12' 50.5	15° 10' 21.8	= D
72° 07' 16.0	14° 40' 25.4	= L
73° 01' 42.5	12° 25' 23.2	= K
69° 54' 26.9	13° 38' 01.0	= M
71° 50' 00.8	12° 50' 48.2	= N
72° 50' 58.7	11° 23' 23.2	= O

All straight lines referred to in paragraphs 91 and 92 are geodetic lines.

For these reasons, THE COURT, By fourteen votes to one, Decides that, within the limits defined (I) to the north by the intersection of the line of equidistance between the coasts of Eastern Greenland and the western coasts of Jan Mayen with the

200-mile limit calculated as from the said coasts of Greenland, indicated on sketch-map No. 2 as point A, and (2) to the south, by the 200-mile limit around Iceland, as claimed by Iceland, between the points of intersection of that limit with the two said lines, indicated on sketch-map No. 2 as points B and D, the delimitation line that divides the continental shelf and fishery zones of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Kingdom of Norway is to be drawn as set out in paragraphs 91 and 92 of the present Judgment.

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Done in English and in French, the English text being authoritative, at the Peace Palace, The Hague, this fourteenth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-three, in three copies, one of which will be placed in the archives of the Court and the others transmitted to the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway, respectively.

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