



In the name of God, the most Compassionate, the most Merciful

No. 186

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations and with reference to the communication dated 23 September 2015, jointly submitted by the Permanent Missions of the State of Kuwait and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, has the honor to state the following:

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran, as repeatedly reiterated on many occasions, does not recognize any claim of sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploitation the resources of the seabed and subsoil of the marine areas between Iran and its neighbors prior to the delimitation of maritime boundaries with the relevant neighboring states.
2. The Islamic Republic of Iran has always pursued the policy of friendship and good neighborliness toward all neighboring States and, on the basis of this fundamental policy, expects its neighboring States to avoid using concepts and terms that are incompatible with the principle of goodwill and do not contribute to mutual understanding and trust.
3. While recalling the principle of international law that a bilateral treaty does not create any obligation for a third party (*pacta tertiis nec nocent nec prosunt*), the Islamic republic of Iran reiterates its reserved position on articles 1 and 7 of the bilateral Agreement between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, dated 2 July 2000, concerning the submerged area adjacent to the partitioned zone.
4. In the meantime, the Islamic Republic of Iran, based on its principled and longstanding position, has always expressed its readiness to conduct separate bilateral negotiations with the governments of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, in order to delimit its maritime boundaries adjacent to the partitioned zone. The Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to continue this approach which is a manifestation of its good faith and is rooted in the established norms and principles of international law.

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations would appreciate if the Secretary-General could have the present Note verbale circulated to all Member States and published in the next issue of the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*.



Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations

622 Third Ave New York, NY 10017 www.Iran-UN.org Tel:+1(212)687-2020 Fax:+1(212)867-7086 E-mail:iran@un.int

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 21 April 2016

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

