

Translated from Spanish

**Permanent Mission of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
to the United Nations**

Ref. No.: 0615

New York, 17 September 2008

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith, further to our letter No. 592 dated 12 September 2008, the original text of Note No. 00766 dated 9 September 2008 from the Ministry of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs concerning the position of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela with respect to the submission by Barbados to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela requests that the annexed letter be circulated among the members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and the States Members of the United Nations.

(Signed) Aura Mahuampi **Rodríguez de Ortiz**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

His Excellency Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Ministry of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs

Ref. No.: 00766

Caracas, 9 September 2008

The Ministry of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to your communication dated 8 May 2008 (Continental Shelf Notification CLCS.10.2008.LOS) concerning the submission made by Barbados to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, notes the following:

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in accordance with customary international law and irrespective of the fact that it is not a party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, has rights over the continental shelf in the area referred to in the summary of Barbados as the "southern area". These rights are exclusive and do not depend on occupation, effective or notional.

In accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (to which Barbados is a party) and the rules of procedure of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, the actions of the Commission should not prejudice matters relating to the delimitation of boundaries between the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and its neighbouring States in the Atlantic Ocean.

In addition, the Ministry wishes to draw attention to the fact that Barbados did not confer with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on its submission, which is contrary to the rules of procedure of the Commission.

The Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela reserves all of its rights pursuant to international law, including the right to make future objections and comments regarding the submission of Barbados.

The Ministry of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, in requesting the circulation of this letter among the members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and the States Members of the United Nations, takes this opportunity to convey to the United Nations Secretary-General the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.
