Note Number: NZ-CLCS-TPN-02

The New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the submission of the Government of New Zealand to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf pursuant to article 76, paragraph 8, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (UNCLOS), presented under cover of Note No. NZ-CLCS-TPN-01 of the same date as this Note.

New Zealand recalls the principles and objectives shared by the Antarctic Treaty and UNCLOS, and the importance of the Antarctic system and UNCLOS working in harmony and thereby ensuring the continuing peaceful cooperation, security and stability in the Antarctic area.

New Zealand notes also the relevant provisions of UNCLOS, including its article 77, which provides inter alia that the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on any express proclamation, and recalls the decisions of Meetings of the States Parties to UNCLOS and the rules of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission).

New Zealand has regard to the circumstances of the area south of 60 degrees South latitude and the special legal and political status of Antarctica under the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, including its article IV, and notes that appurtenant to Antarctica there exist areas of continental shelf the extent of which has yet to be defined. It is open to the States concerned to submit information to the Commission which would not be examined by it for the time being, or to make a partial submission not including such areas of continental shelf, for which a submission may be made later, notwithstanding the provisions regarding the ten-
year period established by article 4 of Annex II to UNCLOS and the subsequent decision on its application taken by the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS.

New Zealand makes a partial submission, in accordance with the Commission’s rules, not including areas of continental shelf appurtenant to Antarctica, for which a submission may be made later, notwithstanding the provisions regarding the ten-year period established by article 4 of Annex II to UNCLOS and the subsequent decision on its application taken by the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS.

The Permanent Mission requests that this Note be placed on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea together with the remainder of the executive summary of the Submission in fulfilment of the requirements of the Commission’s Rules of Procedure.

The New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations takes this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations

NEW YORK

19 April 2006