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No/NV/188/09

New York

16 May 2009

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretary-General and has the honour to refer to the deposit by the Government of Portugal on 11 May 2009, in conformity with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Article 76, of a plan to extend the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

Mr. Ban Ki-Moon

Secretary-General of the United Nations

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In that regard, the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco would like to make the following statements:

1. The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco has taken note of the intention of Portugal to establish the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, the plan having been deposited on 11 May 2009 with the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

2. The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco intends to study the plan of Portugal to establish the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and will convey its position on that matter in due course.

3. In the meantime, the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco rejects any act intended to unilaterally establish the continental shelf and demands that the relevant rules of international law, international practice and jurisprudence should be applied. The Kingdom of Morocco remains firmly attached to the rule of equity and to the provisions of the United

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Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, Article 83, paragraph 1, which states: The

delimitation of the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts shall be

effected by agreement on the basis of international law, as referred to in Article 38 of the

Statute of the International Court of Justice, in order to achieve an equitable solution.

The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco requests the United Nations Secretary-

General to register and circulate this letter and have it published in the Law of the Sea

Bulletin and all relevant United Nations publications.

The Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations takes this

opportunity to convey to the Secretary-General the renewed assurances of its highest

consideration.

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