Decree No. 2015-550 of 18 May 2015 defining the baselines from which the breadth of the French territorial sea adjacent to the coasts of Clipperton Island

NOR. OMES 1508627D

Relevant parties: foreign States whose vessels operate in the French territorial sea of Clipperton Island.

Purpose: definition of the baselines from which the breadth of the French territorial sea around Clipperton Island is measured

Entry into force: the legislation shall enter into force on the day following its publication.

Note: In order to be enforceable against third States, the maritime areas defined in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the territorial sea, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf) must be delimited and the relevant information must then be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In order for the Naval Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service (SHOM) to delimit those maritime areas, the point of origin constituted by the baseline must first be defined. The present decree does so with regard to the French territorial sea adjacent to the coasts of Clipperton Island

References: the present decree can be accessed on the Légifrance website (http://www.legifrance.gouv.fr).

The Prime Minister,

Recalling the relevant report of the Minister of Overseas Territories,


Having regard to amended Act No. 71-1060 of 24 December 1971 concerning the delimitation of French territorial waters,

Hereby decrees:
Article 1. - The baselines from which the breadth of the French territorial sea adjacent to the coasts of Clipperton Island is measured shall be defined by the low-water line located on the outer limits of the reef.

Article 2. The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development, the Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, the Minister of Defence, the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Overseas Territories and the Secretary of State for Transport, the Sea and Fisheries, shall be responsible, within their respective mandates, for the implementation of the present decree, which shall be published in the Official Gazette of the French Republic.

Done on 18 May 2015

By the Prime Minister, Manuel Valls

George Pau-Langevin, Minister of Overseas Territories

Laurent Fabius, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development

Ségolène Royal, Minister of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy

Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister of Defence

Bernard Cazeneuve, Minister of the Interior

Alain Vidalies, Secretary of State for Transport, the Sea and Fisheries