

*Permanent Observer Mission  
of the State of Palestine  
to the United Nations*



البعثة المراقبة الدائمة  
لدولة فلسطين  
لدى الأمم المتحدة

Ref: SGC.99/2022

The Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has to the honour to transmit herewith a note verbale dated 12 April 2022 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine in regards to unauthorized maritime activities in the maritime areas belonging to the State of Palestine.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present note verbale to be published in the publication of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea and on the Website of the Division of State Practices.

The Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine 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.



27 April 2022, New York

H.E. Mr. António Guterres  
Secretary-General of the United Nations  
United Nations, New York



**State of Palestine**  
**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates**

12 April 2022

**Note Verbale**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretary-General, and in reference to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and the State of Palestine's Declarations of maritime zones and boundaries, submitted to the United Nations Secretary-General on 31 August 2015 and 24 September 2019 respectively and published in the Law of the Sea Bulletin No.89 and No.101, as well as the Palestinian Law No.(1) for the Year 1999 AD. Concerning Natural Resources and the Palestinian Ministerial Council Decree No.(243) of the year 2005 on the Protection of Fishery Resources, has the honour to state the following:

- (1) The State of Palestine reiterates that the ongoing unauthorized and non-consensual maritime activities, by any Party in the maritime areas belonging to the State of Palestine, prescribed in the State of Palestine's Declarations regarding its maritime boundaries, are inconsistent with the rules and requirements of international law, specifically UNCLOS, as they are conducted by Parties who have not obtained appropriate concessions and authorizations by the State of Palestine;
- (2) In cases where the maritime areas of the State of Palestine overlap with the maritime areas claimed by other States, maritime delimitation agreements shall take place on the basis of principles of international law, including equity, and with reference to UNCLOS and jurisprudence of both the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea, in order to achieve an equitable solution;
- (3) Pending the conclusion of maritime delimitation agreements, all or any Party involved in unauthorized and non-consensual maritime activities, including carrying out, participating, promoting, investing in, or facilitating, individually or jointly, in areas belonging to the State of Palestine shall desist immediately;
- (4) Hereby, the State of Palestine objects and protests to all unauthorized and non-consensual activities in its maritime areas and reserves its right to seek compensation for the illegal exploration and exploitation of living and non-living resources within its maritime boundaries, as well as damages to the marine environment therein.

The State of Palestine should be grateful if this Note Verbale is circulated among States and published on the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea website and in the next Law of the Sea Bulletin.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the State of Palestine avails itself of this opportunity to renew the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates**  
**Ramallah, 12 April 2022**



**United Nations Secretary-General**