



*Permanent Mission of Portugal  
to the United Nations*

ONU/2013, 153

The Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs) and has the honour to recall Spain's note verbale, No. 186 FP/ot of 5 July 2013, attached hereto.

The Portuguese authorities would like to draw on its 11 May 2009 submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and on Spain's note verbale n° 381 AV/ot, dated 10 June 2009 declaring no objection to Portugal's request.

As stated in the Portuguese proposal, the Portuguese continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the Eastern Region, to the West of the Madeira Archipelago, constitutes the natural prolongation of the land territory of the Madeira Island and of the territory of the Portuguese Mainland.

The Portuguese continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, as delineated in the Portuguese submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, pursuant the relevant provisions of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), does not include in any part the natural prolongation of the land territory of Ilhas Selvagens due to their geographical location. As a result, the Ilhas Selvagens are not, in any circumstance, reflected in the Portuguese submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

The Portuguese Government would like to reiterate Section 6 of the Executive Summary of the 2009 "Submission of Portugal", confirming the absence of unresolved disputes with Spain, in the sense referred to in Rule 46 and Annex I of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, despite the fact that there are no agreed maritime boundaries between Portugal and Spain.

The Permanent Mission of Portugal takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretariat of the United Nations (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs) the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.



New York, 6 September 2013

No. 186 FP/ot

The Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs) and has the honour to recall its objection to Portugal's submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in note verbale No. 381 AV/ot of 10 June 2009 (copy enclosed).

In that regard, it should be noted that while the Portuguese Government wishes the United Nations to recognize its exclusive economic zone and continental shelf in 2015 and to include the Ilhas Selvagens in both of them, Spain does not agree that the Ilhas Selvagens in any way give rise to an exclusive economic zone. It does, however, agree that they give rise to a territorial sea as it considers them to be rocks, which have the right only to a territorial sea.

Spain also reiterates its previous objection, whereby it refused its consent to any delimitation of exclusive economic zones between Madeira and the Canary Islands.

The Permanent Mission of Spain takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretariat of the United Nations (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs) the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 5 July 2013

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United Nations Secretariat

Office of Legal Affairs

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

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