CIRCULAR NOTE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform the Heads of Mission accredited to Denmark of the coming into force by Royal Decree for the Faroe Islands of Act No. 200 of 7 April 1999 on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea, by which the breadth of the territorial sea of Denmark was extended from 3 to 12 nautical miles. By the Decree, the territorial sea of the Faroe Islands is extended from 3 to 12 nautical miles, taking effect as from 1 June 2002.

In pursuance of the Decree, the Minister for Foreign Affairs has issued Executive Order No. 306 of 16 May 2002 on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea of the Faroe Islands indicating the coordinates of the baselines. At the same time, the Royal Decree on the Fishing Territory of the Faroe Islands has been amended accordingly.

Unofficial English translations of the two Royal Decrees as well as the Executive Order are attached to this Note.

Copenhagen, 30 May 2002

To all Heads of Mission accredited to Denmark
Decree on the Coming into Force of the Act on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea for the Faroe Islands

WE MARGRETHE THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Denmark, do hereby make known:

In pursuance of section 6(1) of Act No. 200 of 7 April 1999 on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea, it is hereby laid down that the Act shall extend to the Faroe Islands in the following wording:

1. Denmark's territorial sea is the external and internal territorial waters.

2(1). The external territorial waters cover those areas of the sea which landward are delimited by the baselines applicable at all times mentioned in section 3 and seaward by lines drawn in such a manner that the distance from every point of these lines to the nearest point of the baselines is 12 nautical miles (22,224m).

(2). In the absence of an agreement to the contrary with foreign States whose coasts lie opposite the coasts of Denmark at a distance not exceeding 24 nautical miles or adjacent to Denmark, the outer limit of the external territorial waters shall not extend beyond the median line every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points of the baselines from which the breadth of territorial seas of each of the two States is measured, unless special circumstances may warrant another delineation.

3(1). The internal territorial waters cover those areas of the waters, such as ports, harbour entrances, roadsteads, bays, inlets, sounds and belts, which are within the baselines mentioned in section 2(3).

4(1). The Decree shall enter into force on 1 June 2002.

(2). On 1 June 2002 Decree No. 599 of 21 December 1976 on the delimitation of the territorial sea of the Faroe Islands shall be repealed.

Given at Amalienborg, 30 April 2002

Under Our Royal Hand and Seal

MARGRETHE R.

/ Per Stig Møller

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1 The provision has the following wording: »This Act shall not extend to the Faroe Islands and Greenland but may become effective by Royal Decree for those parts of the Kingdom of Denmark with the amendments dictated by the special conditions prevailing in the Faroe Islands and Greenland.«
Decree to Amend the Decree on the Fishing Territory of the Faroe Islands

WE MARGRETHE THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Denmark, do hereby make known:

1. The following amendment shall be made to Decree No. 598 of 21 December 1976 on the Fishing Territory of the Faroe Islands as amended by Decree No. 615 of 22 July 1999:

   1. *Section 2 shall have the following wording:*

      »Section 2. The baselines from which, pursuant to section 1, the fishing limit shall be measured, shall be identical with the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured, and which are laid down and promulgated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in pursuance of the Act on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea such as the Act has come into force for the Faroe Islands.«

2. This Decree shall enter into force on 1 June 2002.

Given at Amalienborg, 30 April 2002

Under Our Royal Hand and Seal

MARGRETHE R.

/ Per Stig Møller
Executive Order on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea of the Faroe Islands

In pursuance of section 2(3) of the Decree No. 240 of 30 April 2002 on the coming into force of the Act on the Delimitation of the Territorial Sea for the Faroe Islands, the following provisions are laid down:

1(1). The external territorial waters cover the areas of the sea which landward are delimited by the baselines mentioned in section 2 and seaward by lines drawn in such a manner that the distance from every point of these lines to the nearest point of the baselines is 12 nautical miles (22.224m). The delimiting lines are reproduced in the sketch map printed as a schedule to this Executive Order.

2(1). The baselines from which the external territorial waters are determined in pursuance of section 1, shall be the coastline and straight lines as stated below between the following points:

Point 1. Dry rock SW of Sumbiarsteinur (the Munken) and from there a straight line to
Point 2. W-most point of the islet W of Fáimara and from there a straight line to
Point 3. W-most point of Knikarsboði, W of Mykines (Myggems) Lighthouse, and from there a straight line to
Point 4. NW-most point of islet between Knikarsboði and Breiðafjøs and from there a straight line to
Point 5. W-most point of Breiðafjøs and from there a straight line to
Point 6. W-most point of Skeiðið, NW of Mýlingur, and from there the coastline to
Point 7. NE-most point of Skeiðið and from there a straight line to
Point 8. W-most point of Risin, N of Eiðskollur, and from there the coastline to
Point 9. N-most point of Risin and from there a straight line to
Point 10. N-most point of Rivtangi and from there a straight line to

Executive Order No.306 of 16 May 2002
Point 11. NW-most point of Kalsfles, N of Kalsoy, and from there the coastline to 
Point 12. N-most point of Kalsfles and from there a straight line to 
Point 13. N-most point of Flesin, N of Enniberg, and from there a straight line to 
Point 14. N-most point of Skoparin on Fugloy (Fuglø) and from there a straight line to 
Point 15. NE-most point at Hellurnar and from there a straight line to 
Point 16. E-most point of Stapin and from there a straight line to 
Point 17. E-most point of Flesjarnar, S of Akraberg Lighthouse and from there a straight line to 
Point 18. S-most point of Stórafles and from there a straight line to 
Point 1. Dry rock SW of Sumbiarsteinur (the Munken)

3(1). The baselines mentioned in section 2 and the external delimitation for the external territorial waters described in section 1 will be marked by the National Survey and Cadastre on publicly available charts. All co-ordinates refer to geodetic datum ETRS89.

4(1). A list of the co-ordinates mentioned in this Executive Order will be deposited with the Secretary General of the United Nations. 

5(1). The Executive Order shall enter into force on 1 June 2002.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 16 May 2002

Per Stig Møller
Baselines and external delimitation of external territorial waters (12 nautical miles)