The New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York presents its compliments to the United Nations Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, and has the honour to refer to the submission by the Government of France to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf pursuant to article 76, paragraph 8, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea in respect of the areas of French Guiana and New Caledonia submitted on 22 May 2007.

The Permanent Mission has the further honour to advise that the outer limits contained in the French submission in respect of the area of the Loyalty Ridge and Three Kings Ridge overlap partly with those already presented by New Zealand in its submission of 19 April 2006. Accordingly, the Permanent Mission notes that, depending on the outcome of the consideration by the Commission of the French submission, there may be a potential outstanding delimitation between New Zealand and France in the area of the Three Kings Ridge.

The Permanent Mission notes the statement by the Government of France in its submission, consistent with article 76, paragraph 10, of the Convention, that the French submission has been made without prejudice to any eventual future delimitation between New Zealand and France that may be required in this area. On that basis, the Permanent Mission confirms New Zealand has no objection to the Commission considering and making recommendations on the French submission.
The New Zealand Permanent Mission to takes this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, the assurances of its highest consideration.

New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations
NEW YORK
15 August 2007