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REFERENCE: CLCS.06.2006.LOS(Continental Shelf Notification)

19 May 2006

**United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
concluded at Montego Bay, Jamaica
on 10 December 1982**

Receipt of the joint submission made by France, Ireland, Spain
and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

The Secretary-General of the United Nations communicates the following:

On 19 May 2006, France, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland submitted to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, in accordance with Article 76, paragraph 8 of the Convention, information on the limits of the continental shelf appurtenant to France, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as the “four coastal States”) that lie beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the territorial seas of these four coastal States are measured in the portion of the continental shelf in the area of the Celtic Sea and the Bay of Biscay.

It is noted that the Convention entered into force for France on 11 May 1996, for Ireland on 21 July 1996, for Spain on 14 February 1997 and for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 24 August 1997.

The notes accompanying the submission state that “[t]he enclosed submission is of a joint nature, comprising a single project prepared collectively and collaboratively by the four coastal States. For each of these four coastal States the enclosed joint submission represents a partial submission in respect of a portion only of the outer limits of the continental shelf appurtenant to all four coastal States that lie beyond 200 nautical miles from their baselines from which the breadth of their respective territorial seas are measured. This portion of shelf is not the subject of any dispute and, in the view of the four coastal States, its consideration by the Commission will not prejudice matters relating to the delimitation of boundaries between the four coastal States and any other States”.

The notes accompanying the submission also state that “[i]n accordance with paragraph 3 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, in order not to prejudice unresolved questions relating to the delimitation of boundaries between France, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and some of their neighbours in other portions of the continental shelf appurtenant to France, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, submissions for those portions shall be made at a later date”.



In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, the present communication is circulated to all Member States of the United Nations, as well as States Parties to the Convention, in order to make public the executive summary of the submission, including all charts and coordinates contained in that summary. The executive summary of the joint submission is available through the web site of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, at: www.un.org/Depts/los.

The consideration of the submission made by France, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland shall be included in the provisional agenda of the eighteenth session of the Commission to be held in New York from 21 August to 15 September 2006.

Upon completion of the consideration of the submission, the Commission shall make recommendations to these States pursuant to article 76 of the Convention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'V' followed by a flourish and a period.