

Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations
New York

MCRONU-438-2013

New York, 15 July 2013

The Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with respect to the communication submitted to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf by the Republic of Nicaragua on 24 June 2013 concerning the extension of its continental shelf in the Caribbean Sea, would like to state the following:

In section II, paragraph 8, of its executive summary, Nicaragua states that there are no unresolved maritime disputes relating to its request. This is incorrect. Costa Rica and Nicaragua have an unresolved maritime dispute relating to Nicaragua's request in so far as the marine areas claimed by Nicaragua encroach upon marine areas belonging to Costa Rica under international law.

The existence of a maritime dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua is a well-known fact; this has led the Republic of Costa Rica to request that Nicaragua continue negotiations with a view to an agreement on maritime boundaries in the Caribbean Sea, a copy of which was sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 8 March 2013 through note No. MCRONU-318-2013.

Therefore, in accordance with rule 46 of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, which deals with cases involving land or maritime disputes such as this one, Nicaragua's request is governed by paragraph 5 (a) of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure.

Costa Rica requests the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf to take note of this communication and have it duly circulated and issued.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Costa Rica to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York