



Submission of

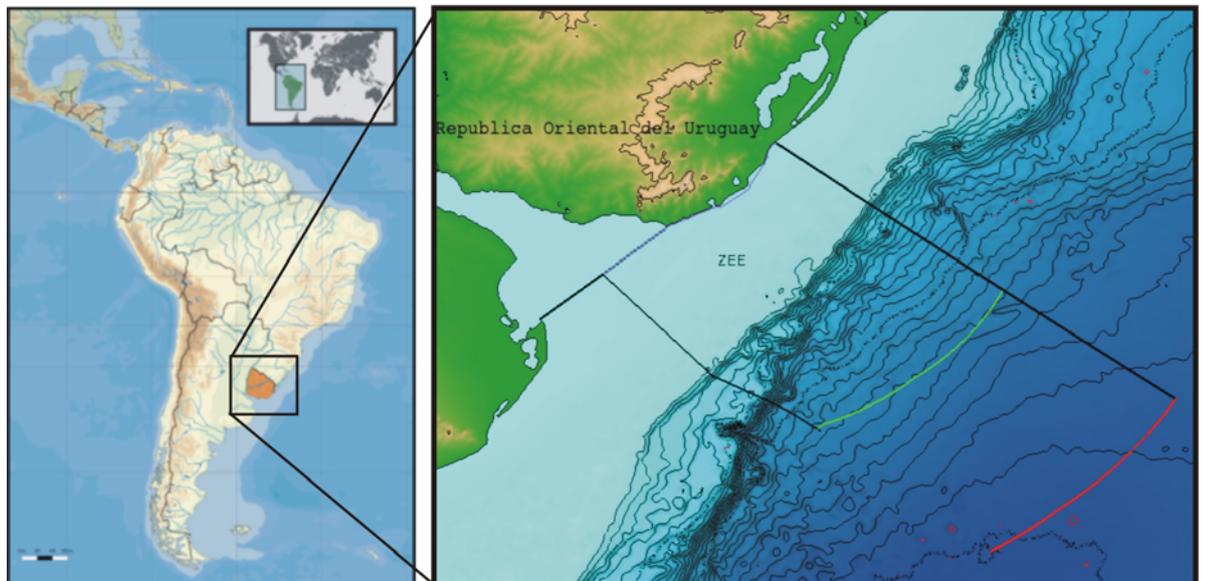
REPUBLICA ORIENTAL DEL URUGUAY

to the

**COMMISSION ON THE LIMITS OF THE
CONTINENTAL SHELF**

pursuant to provisions of article 76, paragraph 8, of the
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Advisory Commission of the Uruguayan Executive Power on the Delineation of the Outer Limit of the Continental Shelf (COALEP)

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1. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to provisions of article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (hereinafter the Convention), and to article 4 of Annex II of same, República Oriental del Uruguay (Uruguay) hereby submits to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission) particulars on the outer limit of its continental shelf, extending beyond 200 nautical miles (M) from the baselines from which the breadth of territorial sea is measured.

On December 10, 1982 Uruguay signed the Convention, which was subsequently approved by Uruguayan Law N° 16,287, and ratified on December 10, 1992.

Figure 1 shows the extent of Uruguay's Continental Shelf, particulars of which are herewith submitted to the Commission.

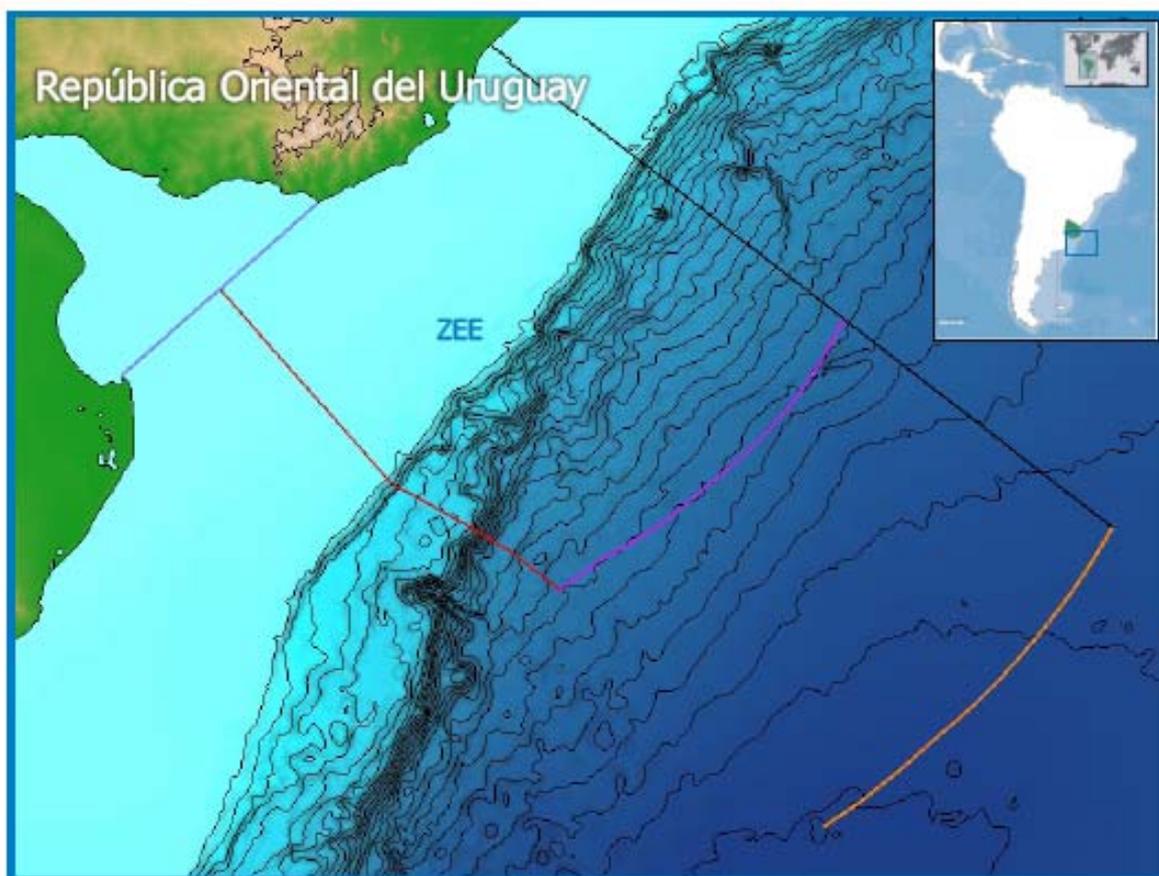


Figure 1: Uruguay's continental shelf



2. PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 76 INVOKED IN URUGUAY'S SUBMISSION

The fixed points delimiting Uruguay's Continental Shelf are defined in this Submission.

Such determinations were based on the following analysis:

- Determination of foot of slope (FOS) points in conformity with paragraph 4 (b) of article 76 of the Convention -i.e. those points at the base of the continental slope where the gradient change was found to be maximum.
- Delineation of the outer edge of the continental margin in conformity with the methodology set out in paragraph 4 (a) (ii) of article 76 of the Convention -i.e. FOS points + 60 M.
- Application of the constraint criterion provided for in paragraph 5 of article 76 - i.e. 350 M constraint line

3. ABSENCE OF TERRITORIAL DISPUTES

There exist, at present, no unresolved disputes over the maritime border with either of Uruguay's neighbouring countries, Argentina or Brazil.

4. ASSISTANCE IN THE ELABORATION OF URUGUAY'S SUBMISSION

Assistance in the elaboration of this Submission was received, in April 2008, from Dr. Galo Carrera, member of the Commission.

Further assistance was also received from other, non-member consultants and institutions from Germany, Brazil, Portugal and Norway.



5. STATE BODIES CONCERNED IN THE ELABORATION OF URUGUAY'S SUBMISSION

Uruguay's Executive Power Resolution of August 20, 1996 created an Advisory Commission of the Uruguayan Executive Power on the Delineation of the Outer Limit of the Continental Shelf (COALEP). Thus deputed the task of delineating the outer limit of Uruguay's continental shelf beyond 200 M, the said Advisory Commission is integrated by the following state bodies:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Defence (General Command of the Uruguayan Navy)
- Ministry of Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries (Directorate of Aquatic Resources)
- Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (Directorate of Mining and Geology - Directorate of Fuels, Alcohol and Portland Cement)

Uruguayan Law N° 17,033 (Law of Maritime Territory), approved in 1998, adapted the Uruguayan legislation to the Convention's regulations, which entered into force in Uruguay in 1994.

Under article 18 of the above-referred Law, the Uruguayan Navy was charged with conducting studies and works as required for determining the outer limit of Uruguay's continental shelf.

To fulfil the provisions of said Law, the Uruguayan Navy created the Office for Coordination of the Continental Shelf Surveying Project (OCPLA).

OCPLA has received technical assistance from various divisions of the Uruguayan Navy, as well as from other state bodies, including, among others, the following:

- Oceanography, Hydrography and Meteorology Service of the Uruguayan Navy
- Research Vessel ROU 22 Oyarvide
- Directorate of Mining and Geology of the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining
- Faculty of Science of Uruguay's State University (Universidad de la República)
- Directorate of Fuels, Alcohol and Portland Cement (ANCAP)



6. THE URUGUAYAN CONTINENTAL MARGIN - GENERAL FEATURES

The Uruguayan continental margin comprises the area delimited approximately between latitude 33° S and 40° S and longitude 46° W and 56° W (Figure 2). The evolution and configuration of this margin was determined by tectonic, magmatic and sedimentary processes that have, ever since the Jurassic, governed the fragmentation of West Gondwanaland, and the subsequent appearance, opening and evolution of the Atlantic Ocean.

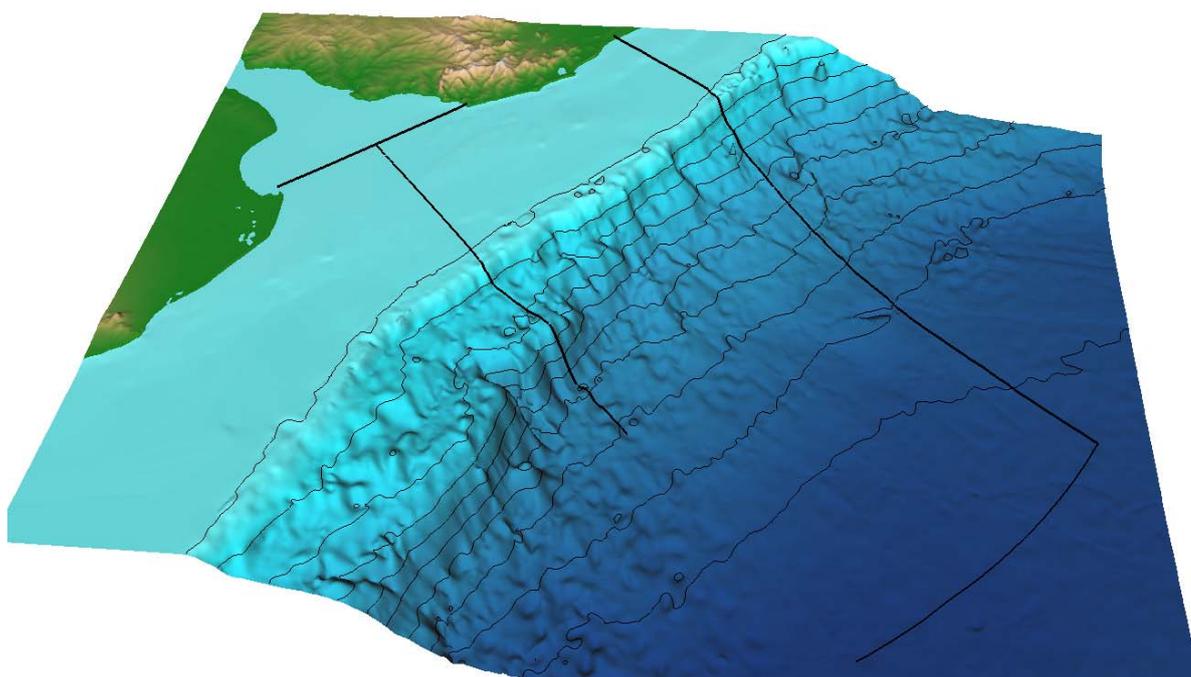


Figure 2: Location, limits and morphological features of the Uruguayan continental margin

Morphologically, the Uruguayan continental margin comprises a broad, well-defined continental shelf with particular features of the continental slope; namely, the transition from the continental slope to the abyssal plain is marked by the absence of a continental rise along the entire width of the Uruguayan continental margin.

Geologically, the continental rupture, aperture and separation dynamics led to the development of a broad, divergent and segmented volcanic continental margin, where various sedimentary depocentres developed in the Meso-Cenozoic.

These depocentres vary in thickness up to 12,000 meters and are displaced and separated by structural elements –e.g. internal highs, fault systems. Among such depocentres, an aulacogenic structure oriented in the WNW-ESE direction comprises the Punta del Este Basin; to the North of which is the Pelotas Basin, and to the South-East of which - towards deeper regions- is the Eastern River Plate Basin (Figure 3).



Data concerning the stratigraphic and structural features of the sedimentary basins off the Uruguayan coast are the result of drilling and geophysical surveying for hydrocarbon reservoirs. In the light of data collected by COALEP, the continuity of sediments was confirmed beyond 350 M from the Uruguayan coastline, with thickness greater than 2,000 meters.



Figure 3: Major geological features of Uruguay: areas of crystalline basement and of Phanerozoic sedimentary basins

The Punta del Este Basin is developed South of the Polonio High, to the North-East of which the Pelotas Basin stretches along the Brazilian shelf up to the Florianópolis High. As also found in vast areas of the South-Atlantic margin, the Uruguayan continental margin shows tectonic segmentation defined by the River Plate Transfer System, which is reflected in the seabed morphology both North and South of the above-described structural pattern (Figure 4).



Figure 4: Major structural features of the Uruguayan continental margin and adjacent areas



7. OUTER LIMIT OF URUGUAY'S CONTINENTAL SHELF

The outer edge of the continental margin is part of the basis for determining the Outer Limit of the Continental Shelf, pursuant to provisions of Art. 76.

Therefore, four FOS points were selected between the Northern border, with Brazil, and the Southern border, with Argentina.

The outer edge of the continental margin is generated by the above points, based on the Hedberg formula (FOS + 60 M).

The outer edge of the Uruguayan continental margin is defined by a set of fixed points located on the envelope curve determined by arcs drawn at a 60 M distance from the selected FOS points.

On drawing the constraint lines described in paragraph 5 of article 76, all above-referred fixed points are found to lie beyond both such constraints (Figure 5).

Thus, in conformity with provisions of paragraph 7 of article 76, the Outer Limit of Uruguay's Continental Shelf is delineated by straight lines of length not greater than 60 M joining 45 fixed points located at a 350 M distance from the respective baselines.

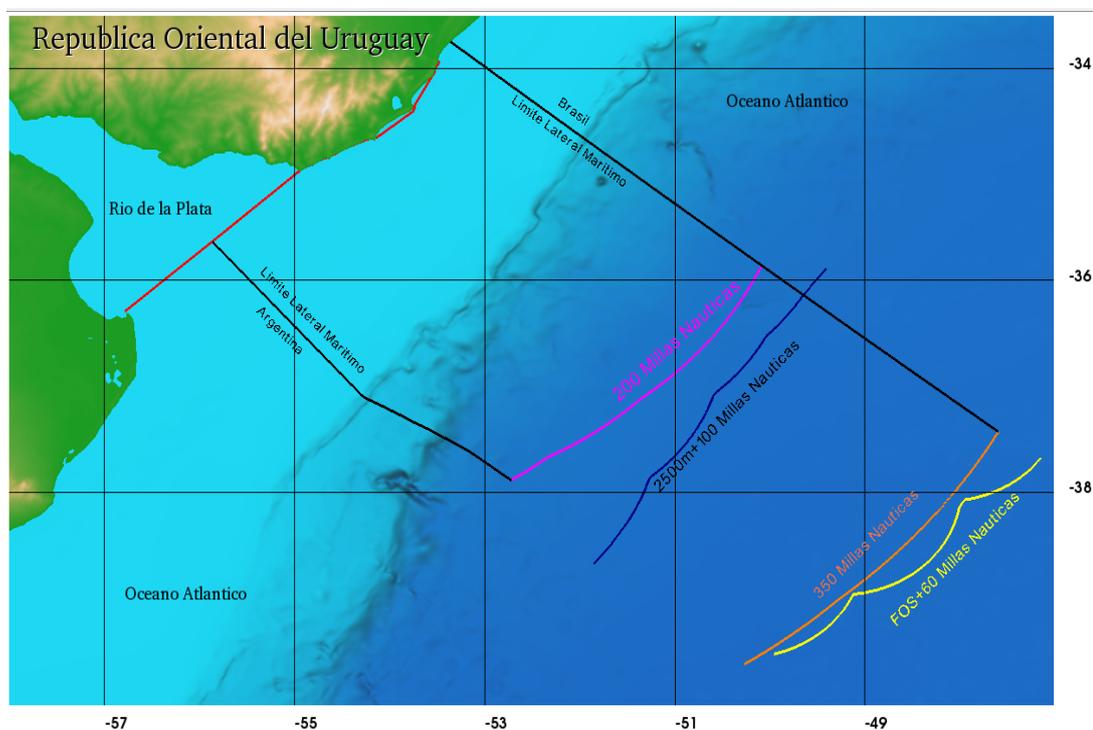


Figure 5: Chart showing the two constraint lines (2,500 meter isobath + 100 M and the line at 350 M from the baselines), the outer edge of the continental margin, and the resulting line delineating the Outer Limit of Uruguay's Continental Shelf (350 M)

**Geographic coordinates (Datum WGS 84) of fixed points
delineating the Outer Limit of Uruguay's Continental Shelf**

FP	Latitude ° (South)	Longitude ° (West)	Distance to previous point (M)	Origin
01	39.4967987	50.0461657	0	350 M, see NOTE
02	39.4591817	49.9790067	4	350 M
03	39.4209373	49.9124201	4	350 M
04	39.3820697	49.8464153	4	350 M
05	39.3425828	49.7810015	4	350 M
06	39.3024805	49.7161884	4	350 M
07	39.2617685	49.6519837	4	350 M
08	39.2204513	49.5883961	4	350 M
09	39.1785338	49.5254340	4	350 M
10	39.1360206	49.4631060	4	350 M
11	39.0929159	49.4014216	4	350 M
12	39.0492241	49.3403895	4	350 M
13	39.0066159	49.2780969	4	350 M
14	38.9644692	49.2152449	4	350 M
15	38.9222706	49.1524222	4	350 M
16	38.8797507	49.0899277	4	350 M
17	38.8366352	49.0280753	4	350 M
18	38.7929289	48.9668736	4	350 M
19	38.7486367	48.9063311	4	350 M
20	38.7037621	48.8464577	4	350 M
21	38.6583113	48.7872608	4	350 M
22	38.6122902	48.7287476	4	350 M
23	38.5657041	48.6709259	4	350 M
24	38.5185581	48.6138042	4	350 M
25	38.4708562	48.5573923	4	350 M
26	38.4226059	48.5016951	4	350 M
27	38.3738131	48.4467203	4	350 M
28	38.3244827	48.3924759	4	350 M
29	38.2746193	48.3389716	4	350 M
30	38.2242306	48.2862117	4	350 M
31	38.1733227	48.2342033	4	350 M
32	38.1219004	48.1829553	4	350 M
33	38.0699697	48.1324750	4	350 M
34	38.0175381	48.0827669	4	350 M
35	37.9646119	48.0338378	4	350 M
36	37.9111950	47.9856985	4	350 M
37	37.8572962	47.9383515	4	350 M
38	37.8029220	47.8918030	4	350 M
39	37.7480774	47.8460621	4	350 M
40	37.6927705	47.8011324	4	350 M
41	37.6370065	47.7570226	4	350 M
42	37.5807933	47.7137369	4	350 M
43	37.5241373	47.6712819	4	350 M
44	37.4670462	47.6296614	4	350 M
45	37.4252437	47.5999131	3	350 M, on LMB with Brazil

NOTE: The fixed point FP 01 is equidistant from Punta Médanos in Argentina (Punta Médanos A01b), located at latitude 36° 53' 18.2" S and longitude 056° 40' 09.8" W, and Cabo Santa María in Uruguay, located at latitude 34° 40' 06.206" S and longitude 054° 09' 06.183" W, compliant with article 70 of *Tratado del Río de la Plata y su Frente Marítimo* (Treaty of the River Plate and its Maritime Front).