

*Bulletin No. 113*

# **Law of the Sea**



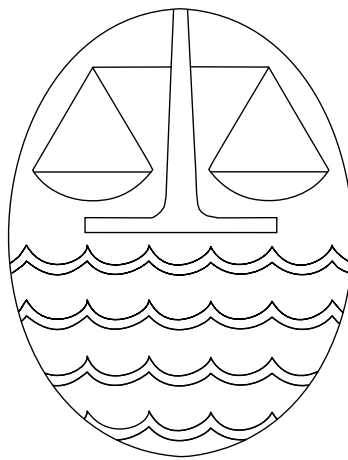
*Division for Ocean Affairs  
and the Law of the Sea  
Office of Legal Affairs*



United Nations

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea  
Office of Legal Affairs

# *Law of the Sea*



*Bulletin No. 113*



United Nations  
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## I. UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

STATUS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA, THE AGREEMENT RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PART XI OF THE CONVENTION, THE AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF STRADDLING FISH STOCKS AND HIGHLY MIGRATORY FISH STOCKS, AND THE AGREEMENT UNDER THE CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2023<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Table recapitulating the status of the Convention and of its implementing Agreements

This consolidated table provides unofficial, quick-reference information related to the participation in the Convention and its implementing Agreements.

The symbol  indicates that (i) a declaration or statement was made at the time of signature, ratification or accession, or anytime thereafter; or (ii) declarations were confirmed upon succession;  indicates that more than one declaration was made by the State. The abbreviations (fc) indicates formal confirmation; (a) accession; (s) succession; (ds) definitive signature; (p) consent to be bound; (sp) simplified procedure. The names of States in italics indicate non-members of the United Nations; shaded rows indicate landlocked States.

State or entity	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (in force as from 16/11/1994)		Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention (in force as from 28/07/1996)		Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (in force as from 11/12/2001)		Agreement under the Convention on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (opened for signature 20 September 2023; not yet in force)	
	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)
TOTALS	157	169	79	152	59	93	84	0
Afghanistan	18/03/83							
Albania		23/06/03(a)		23/06/03(p)				
Algeria	10/12/82 <input type="checkbox"/>	11/06/96	29/07/94	11/06/96(p)				
Andorra								

<sup>1</sup> Source: *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, chap. XXI.6 Available from <https://treaties.un.org>, "Status of Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General". In accordance with article 308, paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Convention:

1. This Convention shall enter into force 12 months after the date of deposit of the sixtieth instrument of ratification or accession.
2. For each State ratifying or acceding to this Convention after the deposit of the sixtieth instrument of ratification or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the deposit of its instrument of ratification or accession, subject to paragraph 1.

State or entity	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (in force as from 16/11/1994)		Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention (in force as from 28/07/1996)		Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (in force as from 11/12/2001)		Agreement under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (opened for signature 20 September 2023; not yet in force)	
	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)
Angola	10/12/82	05/12/90		07/09/10(a)				
Antigua and Barbuda	07/02/83	02/02/89		03/05/16(a)			20/09/2023	
Argentina	05/10/84	01/12/95		29/07/94	01/12/95	04/12/95		
Armenia		09/12/02(a)			09/12/02(a)			
Australia	10/12/82	05/10/94		29/07/94	05/10/94	04/12/95	23/12/99	20/09/2023
Austria	10/12/82	14/07/95		29/07/94	14/07/95	27/06/96	19/12/03	20/09/2023
Azerbaijan		16/06/16(a)			16/06/16(a)			
Bahamas	10/12/82	29/07/83		29/07/94	28/07/95(sp)		16/01/97(a)	
Bahrain	10/12/82	30/05/85						
Bangladesh	10/12/82	27/07/01			27/07/01(a)	04/12/95	05/11/12	20/09/2023
Barbados	10/12/82	12/10/93		15/11/94	28/07/95(sp)		22/09/00(a)	
Belarus	10/12/82	30/08/06			30/08/06(a)			
Belgium	05/12/84	13/11/98		29/07/94	13/11/98(p)	03/10/96	19/12/03	20/09/2023
Belize	10/12/82	13/08/83			21/10/94(ds)	04/12/95	14/07/05	22/09/2023
Benin	30/08/83	16/10/97			16/10/97(p)		02/11/17(a)	
Bhutan	10/12/82							
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	27/11/84	28/04/95			28/04/95(p)			20/09/2023
Bosnia and Herzegovina		12/01/94(s)			26/05/2021(a)			
Botswana	05/12/84	02/05/90			31/01/05(a)			
Brazil	10/12/82	22/12/88		29/07/94	25/10/07	04/12/95	08/03/00	21/09/2023
Brunei Darussalam	05/12/84	05/11/96			05/11/96(p)			
Bulgaria	10/12/82	15/05/96			15/05/96(a)		13/12/06(a)	20/09/2023
Burkina Faso	10/12/82	25/01/05		30/11/94	25/01/05(p)	15/10/96		





State or entity	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (in force as from 16/11/1994)			Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention (in force as from 28/07/1996)			Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (in force as from 11/12/2001)			Agreement under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (opened for signature 20 September 2023; not yet in force)		
	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)		Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration
Estonia		26/08/05(a)	☐		26/08/05(a)		07/08/06(a)	☐	20/09/2023			
Eswatini	18/01/84	24/09/12		12/10/94	24/09/12(p)							
Ethiopia	10/12/82											
European Union	07/12/84☐	01/04/98(fc)	☐	29/07/94	01/04/98(fc)	27/06/96☐	19/12/03	☐	20/09/2023			
Fiji	10/12/82	10/12/82	☐	29/07/94	28/07/95	04/12/95	12/12/96		20/09/2023			
Finland	10/12/82☐	21/06/96	☐	29/07/94	21/06/96	27/06/96	19/12/03	☐	20/09/2023			
France	10/12/82☐	11/04/96	☐	29/07/94	11/04/96	04/12/96☐	19/12/03	☐	20/09/2023			
Gabon	10/12/82	11/03/98	☐	04/04/95	11/03/98(p)	07/10/96			20/09/2023			
Gambia	10/12/82	22/05/84										
Georgia		21/03/96(a)			21/03/96(p)							
Germany		14/10/94(a)	☐	29/07/94	14/10/94	28/08/96	19/12/03	☐	20/09/2023			
Ghana	10/12/82	07/06/83			23/09/16(a)		27/01/17(a)		20/09/2023			
Greece	10/12/82☐	21/07/95	☐☐	29/07/94	21/07/95	27/06/96	19/12/03	☐	21/09/2023			
Grenada	10/12/82	25/04/91		14/11/94	28/07/95(sp)							
Guatemala	08/07/83	11/02/97	☐		11/02/97(p)							
Guinea	04/10/84☐	06/09/85		26/08/94	28/07/95(sp)		16/09/05(a)					
Guinea Bissau	10/12/82	25/08/86	☐			04/12/95						
Guyana	10/12/82	16/11/93			25/09/08(a)							
Haiti	10/12/82	31/07/96			31/07/96(p)							
Holy See												
Honduras	10/12/82	05/10/93	☐		28/07/03(a)				20/09/2023			
Hungary	10/12/82	05/02/02	☐		05/02/02(a)		16/05/08(a)	☐	21/09/2023			
Iceland	10/12/82	21/06/85	☐	29/07/94	28/07/95(sp)	04/12/95	14/02/97		20/09/2023			
India	10/12/82	29/06/95	☐	29/07/94	29/06/95		19/08/03(a)	☐				
Indonesia	10/12/82	03/02/86		29/07/94	02/06/00	04/12/95	28/09/09		20/09/2023			

Iran (Islamic Republic of)	10/12/82								17/04/98(a)	
Iraq	10/12/82	30/07/85								
Ireland	10/12/82	21/06/96		29/07/94	21/06/96	27/06/96	19/12/03			20/09/2023
Israel						04/12/95				
Italy	07/12/84	13/01/95		29/07/94	13/01/95	27/06/96	19/12/03			22/09/2023
Jamaica	10/12/82	21/03/83		29/07/94	28/07/95(sp)	04/12/95				
Japan	07/02/83	20/06/96		29/07/94	20/06/96	19/11/96	07/08/06			
Jordan		27/11/95(a)			27/11/95(p)					
Kazakhstan										
Kenya	10/12/82	02/03/89		29/07/94(ds)			13/07/04(a)			
Kiribati		24/02/03(a)			24/02/03(p)		15/09/05(a)			
Kuwait	10/12/82	02/05/86			02/08/02(a)					
Kyrgyzstan										
Lao People's Democratic Republic	10/12/82	05/06/98		27/10/94	05/06/98(p)					20/09/2023
Latvia		23/12/04(a)			23/12/04(a)		05/02/07(a)			20/09/2023
Lebanon	07/12/84	05/01/95			05/01/95(p)					
Lesotho	10/12/82	31/05/07			31/05/07(p)					
Liberia	10/12/82	25/09/08			25/09/08(p)		16/09/05(a)			
Libya	03/12/84									
Liechtenstein	30/11/84									
Lithuania		12/11/03(a)			12/11/03(a)		01/03/07(a)			20/09/2023
Luxembourg	05/12/84	05/10/00		29/07/94	05/10/00	27/06/96	19/12/03			20/09/2023
Madagascar	25/02/83	22/08/01			22/08/01(p)					
Malawi	07/12/84	28/09/10			28/09/10(p)					20/09/2023
Malaysia	10/12/82	14/10/96		02/08/94	14/10/96(p)					
Maldives	10/12/82	07/09/00		10/10/94	07/09/00(p)	08/10/96	30/12/98			
Mali	19/10/83	16/07/85								
Malta	10/12/82	20/05/93		29/07/94	26/06/96		11/11/01(a)			20/09/2023
Marshall Islands		09/08/91(a)				04/12/95	19/03/03			20/09/2023
Mauritania	10/12/82	17/07/96		02/08/94	17/07/96(p)	21/12/95				22/09/2023

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	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)		Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration
Mauritius	10/12/82	04/11/94		04/11/94(p)	25/03/97(a)		20/09/2023		20/09/2023			
Mexico	10/12/82	18/03/83		10/04/03(a)			20/09/2023		20/09/2023			
Micronesia (Federated States of)		29/04/91(a)		10/08/94	06/09/95	04/12/95	23/05/97		20/09/2023			
Monaco	10/12/82	20/03/96		30/11/94	20/03/96(p)		09/06/99(a)		20/09/2023			
Mongolia	10/12/82	13/08/96		17/08/94	13/08/96(p)							
Montenegro		23/10/06(ds)			23/10/06(ds)							
Morocco	10/12/82	31/05/07		19/10/94	31/05/07	04/12/95	19/09/12		21/09/2023			
Mozambique	10/12/82	13/03/97		13/03/97(a)			10/12/08(a)					
Myanmar	10/12/82	21/05/96		21/05/96(a)								
Namibia	10/12/82	18/04/83		29/07/94	28/07/95(sp)	19/04/96	08/04/98					
Nauru	10/12/82	23/01/96		23/01/96(p)			10/01/97(a)		22/09/2023			
Nepal	10/12/82	02/11/98		02/11/98(p)					20/09/2023			
Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	10/12/82	28/06/96		29/07/94	28/06/96	28/06/96	19/12/03		20/09/2023			
New Zealand	10/12/82	19/07/96		29/07/94	19/07/96	04/12/95	18/04/01		20/09/2023			
Nicaragua	09/12/84	03/05/00		03/05/00(p)								
Niger	10/12/82	07/08/13		07/08/13(p)								
Nigeria	10/12/82	14/08/86		25/10/94	28/07/95(sp)		02/11/09(a)					
Niue	05/12/84	11/10/06		11/10/06(p)	11/10/06(p)	04/12/95	11/10/06					
North Macedonia		19/08/94(s)		19/08/94(p)								
Norway	10/12/82	24/06/96		24/06/96(a)	24/06/96(a)	04/12/95	30/12/96		20/09/2023			
Oman	01/07/83	17/08/89		26/02/97(a)	26/02/97(a)		14/05/08(a)					
Pakistan	10/12/82	26/02/97		10/08/94	26/02/97(p)	15/02/96						
Palau		30/09/96(a)		30/09/96(p)			26/03/08(a)		20/09/2023			
Panama	10/12/82	01/07/96		01/07/96(p)			16/12/08(a)		20/09/2023			
Papua New Guinea	10/12/82	14/01/97		14/01/97(p)	14/01/97(p)	04/12/95	04/06/99					

Paraguay	10/12/82	26/09/86	29/07/94	10/07/95			
Peru							
Philippines	10/12/82	08/05/84	15/11/94	23/07/97	30/08/96	24/09/14	20/09/2023
Poland	10/12/82	13/11/98	29/07/94	13/11/98(p)	14/03/06(a)		21/09/2023
Portugal	10/12/82	03/11/97	29/07/94	03/11/97	27/06/96	19/12/03	20/09/2023
Qatar	27/11/84	09/12/02		09/12/02(p)			
Republic of Korea	14/03/83	29/01/96	07/11/94	29/01/96	26/11/96	01/02/08	31/10/2023
Republic of Moldova		06/02/07(a)		06/02/07(p)			
Romania	10/12/82	17/12/96		17/12/96(a)	16/07/07(a)		20/09/2023
Russian Federation	10/12/82	12/03/97		12/03/97(a)	04/12/95	04/08/97	
Rwanda	10/12/82	18/05/23		18/05/23(p)			
Saint Kitts and Nevis	07/12/84	07/01/93			23/02/18 (a)		
Saint Lucia	10/12/82	27/03/85			12/12/95	09/08/96	20/09/2023
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	10/12/82	01/10/93				29/10/10(a)	20/09/2023
Samoa	28/09/84	14/08/95	07/07/95	14/08/95(p)	04/12/95	25/10/96	20/09/2023
San Marino							
Sao Tome and Principe	13/07/83	03/11/87					
Saudi Arabia	07/12/84	24/04/96		24/04/96(p)	22/06/23(a)		
Senegal	10/12/82	25/10/84	09/08/94	25/07/95	04/12/95	30/01/97	
Serbia	<sup>2</sup>	12/03/01(s)	12/05/95	28/07/95(sp) <sup>3</sup>			
Seychelles	10/12/82	16/09/91	29/07/94	15/12/94	04/12/96	20/03/98	20/09/2023
Sierra Leone	10/12/82	12/12/94		12/12/94(p)			20/09/2023
Singapore	10/12/82	17/11/94		17/11/94(p)			20/09/2023
Slovakia	28/05/93	08/05/96	14/11/94	08/05/96	06/11/08(a)		20/09/2023
Slovenia		16/06/95(s)	19/01/95	16/06/95	15/06/06(a)		20/09/2023

<sup>2</sup> Confirmed upon succession. See *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, chap. XXI.6, endnote 4. Available at <https://treaties.un.org>.

<sup>3</sup> See *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, chap. XXI.6.a, endnote 13. Available at <https://treaties.un.org>.

State or entity	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (in force as from 16/11/1994)			Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention (in force as from 28/07/1996)			Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (in force as from 11/12/2001)			Agreement under the Convention on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (opened for signature 20 September 2023; not yet in force)		
	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration	Signature (dd/mm/yy)	Ratification/ accession (dd/mm/yy)	Declaration
Solomon Islands	10/12/82	23/06/97		23/06/97(p)	13/02/97(a)		20/09/2023					
Somalia	10/12/82	24/07/89										
South Africa	05/12/84	23/12/97	☐	03/10/94	23/12/97		14/08/03(a)					
South Sudan												
Spain	04/12/84☐	15/01/97	☐☐	29/07/94	15/01/97	03/12/96	19/12/03	☐	20/09/2023			
Sri Lanka	10/12/82	19/07/94		29/07/94	28/07/95(sp)	09/10/96	24/10/96					
State of Palestine		02/01/15(a)			02/01/15(p)				20/09/2023			
Sudan	10/12/82☐	23/01/85		29/07/94								
Suriname	10/12/82	09/07/98		09/07/98(p)								
Sweden	10/12/82☐	25/06/96	☐	29/07/94	25/06/96	27/06/96	19/12/03	☐	20/09/2023			
Switzerland	17/10/84	01/05/09	☐	26/10/94	01/05/09							
Syrian Arab Republic												
Tajikistan												
Thailand	10/12/82	15/05/11	☐	15/05/11(a)		28/04/17 (a)						
Timor-Leste		08/01/13(a)	☐	08/01/13(p)					20/09/2023			
Togo	10/12/82	16/04/85	☐☐	03/08/94	28/07/95(sp)		11/05/2022 (a)		22/09/2023			
Tonga		02/08/95(a)			2/08/95(p)	04/12/95	31/07/96					
Trinidad and Tobago	10/12/82	25/04/86	☐☐	10/10/94	28/07/95(sp)		13/09/06(a)					
Tunisia	10/12/82	24/04/85	☐☐	15/05/95	24/05/02							
Türkiye												
Turkmenistan												
Tuvalu	10/12/82	09/12/02		09/12/02(p)		02/02/09(a)			20/09/2023			
Uganda	10/12/82	09/11/90		09/08/94	28/07/95(sp)	10/10/96						

Ukraine	10/12/82	26/07/99	28/02/95	26/07/99	04/12/95	27/02/03	
United Arab Emirates	10/12/82						
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland		25/07/97(a) <sup>4</sup>	29/07/94	25/07/97	04/12/95	10/12/01 19/12/03 <sup>5</sup>	20/09/2023
United Republic of Tanzania	10/12/82	30/09/85	07/10/94	25/06/98			20/09/2023
United States of America			29/07/94		04/12/95	21/08/96	20/09/2023
Uruguay	10/12/82	10/12/92	29/07/94	07/08/07	16/01/96	10/09/99	
Uzbekistan							
Vanuatu	10/12/82	10/08/99	29/07/94	10/08/99(p)	23/07/96	15/03/18	30/11/2023
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)							
Viet Nam	10/12/82	25/07/94		27/04/06(a)		18/12/18(a)	20/09/2023
Yemen	10/12/82	21/07/87		13/10/14(a)			
Zambia	10/12/82	07/03/83	13/10/94	28/07/95(sp)			
Zimbabwe	10/12/82	24/02/93	28/10/94	28/07/95(sp)			
TOTALS	157	169	79	152	59	93	84
							0

<sup>4</sup> See *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, chap. XXI.6, endnote 26. Available from <https://treaties.un.org>.  
<sup>5</sup> See *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, chap. XXI.7, endnotes 6 and 7. Available at <https://treaties.un.org>.

## 2. *Chronological lists of ratifications, accessions and successions*

### (a) *The Convention*

No new ratifications, accessions or successions took place during the period covered by the present issue.

As at 30 November 2023, the information in the chronological list published in *Law of the Sea Bulletin* No. 112 (pp. 10–11) remains valid (see [www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos\\_publications/los\\_bult.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos_publications/los_bult.htm)).

### (b) *Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention*

No new ratifications, accessions or successions took place during the period covered by the present issue.

As at 30 November 2023, the information in the chronological list published in *Law of the Sea Bulletin* No. 112 (pp. 12–13) remains valid (see [www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos\\_publications/los\\_bult.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos_publications/los_bult.htm)).

### (c) *Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks*

No new ratifications, accessions or successions took place during the period covered by the present issue.

As at 30 November 2023, the information in the chronological list published in *Law of the Sea Bulletin* No. 112 (pp. 14–15) remains valid (see [www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos\\_publications/los\\_bult.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos_publications/los_bult.htm)).

### 3. *Depositary Notifications*

#### (a) *Malaysia: Withdrawal of Declaration relating to article 298, 16 August 2023*<sup>6</sup>

“In accordance with Article 298, paragraph 2, of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the Government of Malaysia hereby withdraws with immediate effect its Declaration under Article 298, paragraph 1, of UNCLOS deposited on 26 August 2019 declaring that Malaysia did not accept any of the procedures provided for in Part XV, section 2 with respect to disputes concerning the interpretation or application of Articles 15, 74 and 83 relating to sea boundary delimitation or those involving historic bays or titles.”

#### (b) *United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Declarations under the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction, 20 September 2023*<sup>7</sup>

“In signing the Agreement, the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the “United Kingdom”) recalls Article 71 of the Agreement and has the honour to convey the following declarations:

1. The United Kingdom welcomes the general obligation to interpret and apply the BBNJ Agreement in a manner that promotes coherence and coordination with and that does not undermine other relevant instruments, frameworks and global, regional, subregional and sectoral bodies. In this context, the United Kingdom notes that the Antarctic Treaty system comprehensively addresses the legal, political and environmental considerations unique to that region and provides a comprehensive framework for the international management of the Antarctic.
2. The United Kingdom notes references in paragraph 8 of the Preamble to “the existing rights of Indigenous Peoples, including as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, or of, as appropriate, local communities,” and in Article 7(k) to “the rights of Indigenous Peoples or of, as appropriate, local communities”. The United Kingdom’s long-standing and well-established position, set out in its annual explanation of position at the UN General Assembly on the rights of indigenous people, is that human rights are held exclusively by individuals. With the exception of the right of self-determination (Common Article 1 of the two International Human Rights Covenants), the United Kingdom does not recognise collective human rights in international law. The United Kingdom consider this important in ensuring that individuals within groups are not left vulnerable or unprotected by allowing the rights of the groups to supersede the human rights of the individual. The United Kingdom therefore understands any internationally-agreed reference to the rights of indigenous peoples or local communities, including those in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and, in the Agreement signed today, to refer to those rights bestowed by governments at the national level. The United Kingdom further understands the term “local communities” to be used consistently with the way it is used in the Convention on Biological Diversity.”

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<sup>6</sup> *Original*: English. See C.N.237.2023.TREATIES-XXI.6 (Depositary Notification) of 17 August 2023.

<sup>7</sup> *Original*: English. See C.N.344.2023.TREATIES-XXI.10 (Depositary Notification) of 20 September 2023.



## II. LEGAL INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA

### BILATERAL TREATIES

#### **1. *Agreement between the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on delimitation of the territorial sea (territorial waters), the economic zone, the maritime fishing zone and the continental shelf in the Baltic Sea, 17 July 1985***<sup>8</sup>

The State Council of the Polish People's Republic and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Guided by the desire to deepen and expand the good-neighbourly and friendly relations between the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Mindful of the provisions of the Protocol between the Government of the Polish People's Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the delimitation of Polish and Soviet territorial waters in the Gulf of Gdansk of the Baltic Sea of 18 March 1958 and the Treaty between the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the boundary of the continental shelf in the Gulf of Gdansk and the South-Eastern part of the Baltic Sea of 28 August 1969,

Recognizing that both Contracting Parties strive to conserve and make optimal use of natural resources and to safeguard other interests in accordance with international law, in the maritime spaces adjacent to their coasts,

Having regard to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982, to which both Contracting Parties are signatories,

Desiring to settle in a single agreement questions of maritime delimitation adjacent to the coasts of the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Have agreed as follows:

#### *Article 1*

The boundary of the territorial sea (territorial waters) between the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall follow a straight line from a point on the Vistula Spit on the Polish-Soviet State boundary with geographical coordinates 54°27'28"63 northern latitude and 19°38'30"96 eastern longitude to the intersection of that line at 12 nautical miles with the outer limit of the territorial sea (territorial waters) of the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics at a point with geographical coordinates 54°36'15" northern latitude and 19°24'22" eastern longitude.

#### *Article 2*

The boundary between the economic zones, the maritime fishing zones and the continental shelves between the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall follow a line from a point with geographical coordinates 54°36'15" northern latitude, 19°24'22" eastern longitude, through points with the following geographical coordinates: [...] to the junction point of the maritime spaces of the Polish People's Republic, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Kingdom of Sweden.

<sup>8</sup> *Original*: Russian and Polish. Registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations by Poland on 1 June 2023, registration No. I-57784, pursuant to Article 102(1) of the Charter of the United Nations. Entry into force: 13 March 1986, in accordance with article 6. See [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/showDetails.aspx?objid=0800000280529188&clang=\\_en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/showDetails.aspx?objid=0800000280529188&clang=_en).

<sup>9</sup> Table of coordinates available at <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/UNTS/No%20Volume/57784/Part/I-57784-0800000280529188.pdf>.

*Article 3*

The boundaries defined in articles 1 and 2 have been marked on Polish nautical map No. 301, at a scale of 1:500,000, and Soviet nautical map No. 1150, at a scale of 1:500,000, which have been annexed to this Agreement.

*Article 4*

This Agreement shall replace the relevant provisions of the Protocol between the Government of the Polish People's Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the delimitation of Polish and Soviet territorial waters in the Gulf of Gdansk of the Baltic Sea of 18 March 1958 and the Treaty between the Polish People's Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the boundary of the continental shelf in the Gulf of Gdansk and the South-Eastern part of the Baltic Sea of 28 August 1969.

*Article 5*

This Agreement shall be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

*Article 6*

This Treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the day of exchange of the instruments of ratification, which will occur in Warsaw at the earliest opportunity.

DONE at Moscow on 17 July 1985, in two copies, each in the Polish and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the State Council of the Polish People's Republic:

[SIGNED]

For the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

[SIGNED]





2. *Agreement between the Republic of Fiji and Solomon Islands concerning their maritime boundary, 11 July 2022*<sup>10</sup>



**AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI  
AND  
SOLOMON ISLANDS  
CONCERNING  
THEIR  
MARITIME BOUNDARY**

<sup>10</sup> *Original*: English. Registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations by Solomon Islands on 15 August 2023, registration No. I-57923, pursuant to Article 102(1) of the Charter of the United Nations. Entry into force: 22 February 2023, in accordance with article 10. See [https://treaties.un.org/Pages/showDetails.aspx?objid=080000028061f31c&clang=\\_en](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/showDetails.aspx?objid=080000028061f31c&clang=_en).

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI AND SOLOMON ISLANDS CONCERNING THEIR MARITIME BOUNDARY**

The Sovereign states of the Republic of Fiji ('Fiji') and Solomon Islands;

**DESIRING** to strengthen the bonds of friendship between the two States;

**RECOGNIZING** the need to effect a precise and equitable delimitation of the respective maritime areas in which the two States exercise sovereign rights;

**BASING** themselves on the rules and principles of relevant international law, as they are expressed in the United Nations Convention Law of the Sea, 10 December 1982 to which both Fiji and the Solomon Islands are a party, and, in particular Article 74 which provide that the delimitation of the exclusive economic zone between States with opposite or adjacent coasts shall be effected by agreement on the basis of international law, as referred to in Article 38 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in order to achieve an equitable solution; and

**DESIROUS** of establishing a clear maritime boundary between the Republic of Fiji and the Solomon Islands;

**HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:**

**ARTICLE 1**

**INTERPRETATION**

In this Agreement unless the context otherwise requires: -

**"Agreement"** means this Agreement;

**"continental shelf"** in accordance with Part VI of UNCLOS, includes the seabed and subsoil of the submarine areas that extend beyond its territorial sea throughout the natural prolongation of its land territory to the outer edge of the continental margin, or to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured where the outer edge of the continental margin does not extend up to that distance in accordance with Part VI of UNCLOS;

**"EEZ"** means the Exclusive Economic Zones measured 200 nautical miles from the baselines of each Party as referred to under with Part V of UNCLOS;

**"Parties"** means the Republic of Fiji and the Solomon Islands; and

**"UNCLOS"** means the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982.

**ARTICLE 2**

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish in accordance with international law, the maritime boundary between the Republic of Fiji and the Solomon Islands.

**ARTICLE 3**

**Maritime Boundary between Fiji and Solomon Islands**

(1) The line of delimitation between the exclusive economic zones and continental shelves over which each State respectively exercises sovereign rights and jurisdiction in accordance with international law lies seaward of Fatutaka in the Solomon Islands and Rotuma in Fiji respectively, along geodesics connecting the following geographical coordinates of points ('points'), defined by their coordinates in the order stated below:

<b>Point Identifier</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
FJ_SB MB1	11° 50' 53.09" S	173° 35' 34.62" E
FJ_SB MB 2	11° 51' 53.09" S	173° 35' 29.20" E
FJ_SB MB 3	12° 13' 30.64" S	173° 33' 33.05" E
FJ_SB MB 4	12° 28' 31.76" S	173° 32' 12.15" E
FJ_SB MB 5	12° 35' 08.29" S	173° 31' 36.49" E
FJ_SB MB 6	12° 36' 08.29" S	173° 31' 31.09" E

(2) The line of delimitation referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article is the equidistance line between Fiji and the Solomon Islands.

(3) The geographical coordinates given in this Agreement are determined by reference to the geodetic reference system WGS 84 (World Geodetic Reference System 1984).

(4) The boundary line drawn on the chart in the Annexure to this Agreement is drawn for illustrative purposes only.

**ARTICLE 4**

**Without Prejudice**

This Agreement will not prejudice any further negotiations with Solomon Islands relating to international law, the law of the sea including those to do with the regional cooperation, waters, seabed or areas of continental shelf areas.

**ARTICLE 5**

**Sovereign Rights**

The lines described in Article 3 of this Agreement shall be the maritime boundary between the areas referred to in Article 3 in which Parties, in accordance with international law and Article 56 of UNCLOS shall exercise their sovereign rights or jurisdiction.

**ARTICLE 6**

**Adjustments to Maritime Boundary**

If new surveys or resulting charts and maps should indicate that changes in the base point coordinates are sufficiently significant to require adjustments of the maritime boundary, the Parties agree that an adjustment will be carried out on the basis of the same principles as those used in determining the maritime boundary, and such adjustments shall be provided for in a Protocol to this Agreement.

**ARTICLE 7**

**Dispute Resolution**

Any dispute between the parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled peacefully through consultation and negotiations between the Parties or through negotiation in accordance with international law as agreed to by the Parties.

**ARTICLE 8**

**Equitable Benefit from Resource Exploitation**

If any single accumulation or deposit of liquid hydrocarbon, natural gas, or other mineral lies on the maritime boundary median line, the accumulation or deposit of such resources shall be effectively exploited by either or both Parties and both Parties shall equitably share the benefits of such resource exploitation.



**ARTICLE 9**

**Agreement Deposit**

Upon the completion of all national procedures bringing this Agreement into force, each party shall take all the necessary steps to lodge this Agreement, including the coordinates in Article 1, with the appropriate international bodies.

**ARTICLE 10**

**Entry into Force**

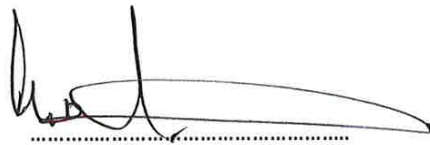
Each Party shall notify the other of the completion of its national procedures to bring this Agreement into force. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the later note in an exchange of notes between Parties indicating that each Party has completed its national procedures for the entry into force of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the representatives of the two Governments, being duly authorized for this purpose, have signed this Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

DONE at Suva, Fiji on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of July in the year 2022 in two originals, each in the English language.

**For the Government of Solomon Islands**

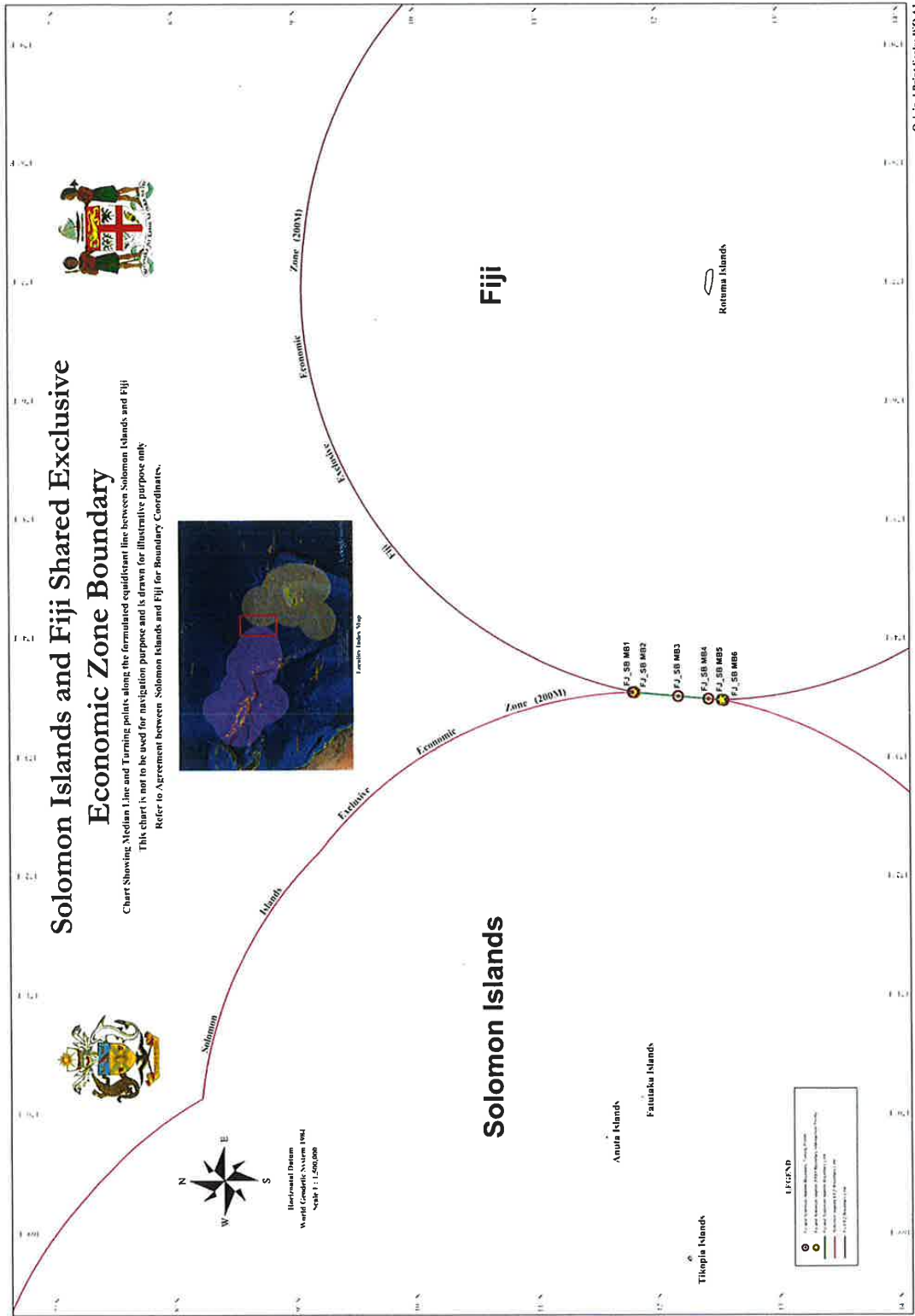
**For the Government of the Republic of Fiji**



*Hon. Manasseh D. Sogavare  
Prime Minister of Solomon Islands*



*Hon. Josaia V. Bainimarama  
Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji*



Original Print Scale: ISO A1  
 Annexure

### III. OTHER INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE LAW OF THE SEA

#### A. LIST OF CONCILIATORS NOMINATED UNDER ARTICLE 2 OF ANNEX V AND ARBITRATORS NOMINATED UNDER ARTICLE 2 OF ANNEX VII TO THE CONVENTION AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2023<sup>11</sup>

No new nominations of conciliators and arbitrators took place during the period covered by the present issue.

As at 30 November 2023, the information in the list of conciliators and arbitrators published in *Law of the Sea Bulletin* No. 112 (pp. 59–65) remains valid (see [www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos\\_publications/los\\_bult.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/doalos_publications/los_bult.htm)).

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<sup>11</sup> See *Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General*, chap. XXI.6, available at <https://treaties.un.org>. The designations included in this table are reproduced as submitted by States parties. The lists of experts for the purposes of article 2, annex VIII, to the Convention are available at [www.un.org/depts/los/settlement\\_of\\_disputes/experts\\_special\\_arb.htm](http://www.un.org/depts/los/settlement_of_disputes/experts_special_arb.htm).

**B. SELECTED DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND  
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL<sup>12</sup>**

1. A/78/129: Report on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea at its twenty-third meeting.
2. A/RES/77/321: General Assembly resolution 77/321 of 1 August 2023, entitled “Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction”.
3. S/2023/588: Letter dated 7 August 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.
4. S/2023/609: Letter dated 17 August 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General.
5. A/77/1013-S/2023/651: Identical letters dated 22 August 2023 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council.
6. A/78/339: Oceans and the law of the sea: Report of the Secretary-General.
7. A/78/521: Report on the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects: Letter dated 16 October 2023 from the Co-Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole addressed to the President of the General Assembly.
8. A/78/567-S/2023/809: Identical letters dated 27 October 2023 from the Permanent Representatives of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council.

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<sup>12</sup> United Nations documents are available at [www.undocs.org/\[document symbol\]](http://www.undocs.org/[document symbol]), e.g., [www.undocs.org/A/78/129](http://www.undocs.org/A/78/129).

**C. MARITIME ZONE NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED FROM 1 AUGUST TO 30 NOVEMBER 2023<sup>13</sup>**

No maritime zone notifications were issued during the above-mentioned period.

**D. CONTINENTAL SHELF NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED FROM 1 AUGUST TO 30 NOVEMBER 2023<sup>14</sup>**

<i>Continental Shelf Notification</i>	<i>Submission</i>
CLCS.1.Rev3.2023.LOS of 31 October 2023	Russian Federation – partial revised submission in the Area of the Gakkel Ridge in the Arctic Ocean

**E. SUMMARIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF MADE PUBLIC FROM 1 AUGUST TO 30 NOVEMBER 2023<sup>15</sup>**

Summary of Recommendations of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in regard to the partial revised Submission made by the Russian Federation in respect of the south-east Eurasia Basin in the Arctic Ocean on 14 February 2023, approved on 8 August 2023.

<sup>13</sup> Maritime zone notifications are available in English and French from [www.un.org/Depts/los/LEGISLATIONANDTREATIES/depositpublicity.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/LEGISLATIONANDTREATIES/depositpublicity.htm).

<sup>14</sup> Continental shelf notifications concerning submissions made by coastal States to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, pursuant to article 76(8) of the Convention, are available in English and French on the web pages concerning the respective submissions published at [www.un.org/depts/los/clcs\\_new/commission\\_submissions.htm](http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/commission_submissions.htm).

<sup>15</sup> Recommendations and summaries of recommendations of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf concerning submissions made by coastal States are available on the web pages concerning the respective submissions published at [www.un.org/Depts/los/clcs\\_new/commission\\_submissions.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/clcs_new/commission_submissions.htm).

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