



PERMANENT MISSION OF GHANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

19 EAST 47TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017
TEL. NO. 212-832-1300

UN-15

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Ghana to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the submission made by the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on 8 May 2009 pursuant to Article 76, paragraph 8, of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("Commission") of information on the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured. The Permanent Mission has the further honour to refer to the submission made by Côte d'Ivoire on 24 March 2016 of amended information, which purportedly replaces in its entirety the information submitted on 8 May 2009, and to the relevant Continental Shelf Notification CLCS.42.REV.2016.LOS of 20 April 2016, and convey the following comments from the Government of Ghana.

Ghana notes that the Executive Summary accompanying the amended information submitted by Côte d'Ivoire contains a section entitled "Absence of Disputes" (Section 5). Ghana wishes to inform the Commission that there is, in fact, a dispute regarding the delimitation of the maritime boundary between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. This dispute extends to the delimitation of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles as Côte d'Ivoire's amended information has created an overlap in the outer continental shelf which did not exist according to the information presented by Côte d'Ivoire in its submission of 8 May 2009. In contrast to Côte d'Ivoire's original submission, we find that in the current amended information, four of the six outer limit points indicated by Côte d'Ivoire are nearly identical to Ghana's outer limit points.

Ghana further observes that, at paragraph 5.4 of the Executive Summary of its amended submission, Côte d'Ivoire states: "in accordance with paragraph 2(b) of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure, Côte d'Ivoire wishes to inform the Commission that in its view, the consideration of [its] submission will not prejudice matters relating to the determination of boundaries between Côte d'Ivoire and any other State(s)."

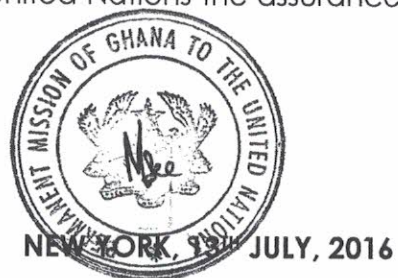
Ghana considers that Côte d'Ivoire's reference to paragraph 2(b) of Annex I is an acknowledgement of the existence of a dispute.

Ghana, however, consents to the Commission's consideration of Côte d'Ivoire's submissions, notwithstanding the existence of a dispute, provided that the existence of the dispute be taken into account in the Commission's consideration of Côte d'Ivoire's submissions, and that any action taken by the Commission in respect of those submissions

shall be without prejudice to the delimitation of the maritime boundary, which will be effected by a Special Chamber of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) pursuant to a Special Agreement under Article 15, paragraph 2, of the ITLOS Statute.

Pursuant to that Special Agreement, which Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire entered into on 3 December 2014, the Special Chamber was constituted on 12 January 2015. In accordance with the rules of procedure adopted by the Special Chamber, Ghana submitted its Memorial on 4 September 2015 and Côte d'Ivoire submitted its Counter-Memorial on 4 April 2016. Ghana will submit its Reply on 25 July 2016, and Côte d'Ivoire will submit its Rejoinder on 14 November 2016. The Special Chamber is expected to hold oral hearings in February 2017. A final and binding decision on the maritime boundary will be issued thereafter, and is expected later in 2017.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Ghana to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.



**THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS
UNITED NATIONS
UN SECRETARIAT
ROOM DC2-0450**

NEW YORK, NY 10017

**ATTN: DIVISION OF OCEAN AFFAIRS
AND THE LAW OF THE SEA**

FAX :+1-(212)963-5847
E-mail: doalos@un.org