Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations

No. 064 MPbcm

The Permanent Mission of Spain to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat, Office of Legal Affairs, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, and, with regard to note verbale No. ONU/2015/59 from the Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations, of 1 April 2015, for which it would like to express its gratitude, has the honour to reiterate the statement in its note verbale No. 381 AV/ot, of 10 June 2009, that the Government of Spain does not object to Portugal’s request that the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf should consider Portugal's submission documentation relating to the Madeira Islands Region* and should make its recommendations on the basis of that documentation, provided this is without prejudice to Spain’s rights in relation to the extension of its continental shelf in the area west of the Canary Islands, in respect of which extension Spain has deposited documentation related to its submission of 17 December 2014, as communicated by the Secretary-General in notification No. CLCS.77.2014.LOS.

In this regard, Spain recalls that in section 5 of the executive summary of the partial submission of data and information on the limits of its continental shelf to the west of the Canary Islands, pursuant to part VI of and annex II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, it is stated that the area of the continental shelf to which that partial submission refers is not the subject of any dispute with any other coastal State or States, nor does the partial submission prejudice matters relating to the delimitation of boundaries between States; and that the partial submission neither prejudges nor prejudices the fixing of the outer limits of the continental shelf resulting from Portugal’s submission, nor the rights of third parties which may be claimed in the future.

United Nations Secretariat
Office of Legal Affairs
Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea
New York

* Translator’s note: The executive summary of Portugal’s submission refers to the Eastern Region (which includes the Madeira Archipelago), the Western Region and the Galicia Bank Region.
Accordingly, Spain communicates to the Commission its willingness to undertake, in agreement with Portugal, the lateral delimitation of the continental shelf between the two countries as soon as the Commission has examined their claims.

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

New York, 7 April 2015