



L/UN/20(xii)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka presents its compliment to the Secretary General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the submission made by the Union of Myanmar on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2008, pursuant to Article 76, paragraph 8, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea(1982), containing information on the limits of the Continental Shelf it claims beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.

Sri Lanka notes that the Executive Summary of Myanmar's submission to the Commission relies inter-alia on the Statement of Understanding concerning a specific method to be used in establishing the outer edge of the Continental Margin, incorporated in Annex II of the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. Sri Lanka further notes that the contents of the Executive Summary do not enable Sri Lanka to make an informed judgment on Myanmar's interpretation and application of the aforesaid Statement. Sri Lanka wishes to state its position that the "State" referred to in the Statement of Understanding is Sri Lanka. Accordingly, Sri Lanka agrees to the presentation of the submission by Myanmar, to the Commission, on the understanding that its presentation and consideration is without prejudice to a future submission by Sri Lanka under the terms of the Statement of Understanding and requests the Commission that no recommendations prejudicial to Sri Lanka's interest be made on the area claimed by Myanmar under the Statement of Understanding. Further

such consideration shall not prejudice the delimitation of the continental shelf between neighbouring States in the area claimed by Myanmar under the aforementioned Statement of Understanding.

Sri Lanka's inability to comment at this point should not be interpreted as either agreement or acquiescence by Sri Lanka to Myanmar's submission, under the Statement of Understanding.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Secretary General of the United Nations  
New York

