



**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK**

August 2, 2021

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, and has the honor to submit the following observations of the Government of the United States with reference to communication CLCS.1.REV.2015.LOS.Add1 of April 1, 2021, concerning an Addendum to the Executive Summary of the partial revised Submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf of the Russian Federation in respect of the continental shelf in the area of the Lomonosov Ridge and other areas of the Arctic Ocean (“Addendum”).

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including its Annex II, and the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, in particular Annex I thereto, provide that the actions of the Commission shall not prejudice matters relating to delimitation of boundaries between States with opposite or adjacent coasts.

The United States takes note of the reference in the Executive Summary of the partial revised submission of the Russian Federation regarding the “Agreement between the USSR and the USA of June 1, 1990, [in which] the Parties delimited the territorial sea, economic zones, and continental shelf in the Chukchi and Bering seas, as well as in the Arctic and Pacific oceans.” In the Arctic Ocean, the boundary established by the Agreement delimits the continental shelf of the United States and the Russian Federation up to the northernmost location where both countries have continental shelf jurisdiction under international law. The United States confirms that the Agreement’s provisions, including with respect to the boundary line, have been provisionally applied by agreement of both governments since June 15, 1990, pursuant to an

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exchange of notes dated June 1, 1990. Pursuant to that exchange of notes, the two governments continue to abide by the terms of the 1990 Agreement.

The United States takes note further of the statement in the Addendum that “[t]his Addendum and its consideration by the Commission are without prejudice to the question of maritime delimitation.”

With reference to the Addendum, the Government of the United States confirms that it does not object to the request made by the Russian Federation that the Commission consider and make recommendations relating to the information contained in the Addendum, to the extent that such recommendations are without prejudice to the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf by the United States of America, or to the delimitation of the continental shelf between the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

