Mr. Elísio Benedito Jamine (Mozambique) 2006-2007 United Nations – The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellow



Bio Sketch

Mr. Jamine is a Research and Documentation Officer in the National Institute of Maritime and Borders Affairs (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the Republic of Mozambique). He Complete his Graduation in International Relations and Diplomacy from the Higher Institute of International Relations (ISRI) in Maputo. Upon completion of his studies, Mr. Jamine began working for the National Institute of Maritime and Borders Affairs, in the Directorate for Legal Affairs, Studies and Information, where he continues to work today. His responsibilities and duties include: conducting studies, research and analysis of issues related to maritime and borders affairs; the establishment and management of the Centre of Information and Documentation for Maritime and Borders Affairs; ensuring the collection, edition and dissemination of information related to seas and borders; the preparation of reports and plans for the National Institute of Borders Affairs; the organization of archives on seas and borders; and working with the Technical Council of Maritime and Borders Affairs.

Fellowship Host Institutions and Supervisors

- 1. Center for Ocean Law and Policy, University of Virginia Law School (Professor John N. Moore)
- 2. Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations (DOALOS)

Research Abstract

Maritime Boundaries Delimitation, Management and Dispute Resolution: The Delimitation and Negotiation of the Mozambique Maritime Boundaries with Neighboring States (including the extended Continental Shelf) and the management of permanent Maritime Boundaries and Spaces.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), establishes the jurisdictional regimes under which a Coastal State can claim, manage and utilize its ocean resources. With an increasing need to administer competing interests in the ocean and seabed resources and the requirement to ensure sustainable exploitation of these resources, Mozambique has an ambitious programme of delimitation and negotiation of its maritime boundaries, including the outer limits of the extend Continental Shelf.

Mozambique faces the problem of delimitation and negotiation of the maritime boundaries, connected to lack of management of maritime spaces, of appropriate technology to quantify, qualify, and exploit the resources that lie in the sea and, lack of instruments to exercise and guarantee sovereign rights. These problems obstruct the Mozambican State, as sovereign subject of International Law of the Sea, to be able to take independent initiatives in pursuit of her internal and external objectives.

The lack of delimitation of the maritime boundaries appears as an embarrassment for the State. Mozambique is not in position of exercising all her rights and duties in accordance with UNCLOS, concerning jurisdiction and sovereignty exercise in these spaces. Then, the delimitation of the boundaries is not sufficient to solve the existent concerns, since, there is still a persistent lack of knowledge and capacity to carry out management, research and evaluation of stocks in the Exclusive Economic Zone. Therefore, what would be the profits and/or the importance of the delimitation of the Mozambique maritime boundaries?

In this respect, there are two key issues to explore; first, the delimitation and negotiation of maritime boundaries and spaces. Second, the sustainable management of maritime spaces and permanent maritime boundaries.

It is in the context of UNCLOS that we intend to understand how the Mozambican reality fits in, and we brought up the discussion of the problematic delimitation, negotiation, management of Mozambique maritime boundaries and spaces. This research will identify and address the government strategic options for delimitation, negotiation and management of maritime borders and spaces.

Fellow Contact Information

elisiojamine@hotmail.com