

**The United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea:
Its mandate, functions, and role in relation to the implementation of the United
Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea¹**

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The United Nations, acting through the General Assembly and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, undertakes activities to contribute to the progressive development and codification of international law, and to promote the strengthening and development, as well as, the effective implementation of the international legal order for the seas and oceans. One of the United Nations’ greatest achievements in the field of progressive development and codification of international law is, without any doubt, the conclusion of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (“UNCLOS” or “the Convention”) in 1982. Currently, there are 162 parties to this Convention, including the European Union.

A great milestone will be reached on 10 December this year, which will mark the 30th Anniversary of the opening for signature of UNCLOS. A number of activities, which will be outlined further below, have been, and will be held, to commemorate this important milestone.

UNCLOS Overview

Let me start by recalling some of the salient provisions of the preamble to the Convention. Notably, the States Parties to the Convention expressed their “*desire to settle, in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation, all issues relating to the law of the sea ... (emphasis added).*” Moreover, they also expressed the belief that “*the codification and progressive development of the law of the sea achieved in the Convention will contribute to the strengthening of peace, security, cooperation and friendly relations among all nations in conformity with the principles of justice and equal*

¹ The views expressed in this presentation are solely mine and do not in any way reflect the views of the United Nations, especially those of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations.

rights in accordance with the principles and purposes of the United Nations as set forth in the Charter.”

The General Assembly has consistently reaffirmed that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out. The Convention is of critical importance as the basis for national, regional and global action in the marine sector, and its integrity needs to be maintained.² It is, therefore, considered to be a “constitution for the oceans” as it deals with all matters related to the use of ocean space. Indeed, the Convention covers a wide range of issues such as the establishment of maritime zones, including the establishment of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, the protection and preservation of the marine environment, the conservation and management of marine living resources, marine scientific research, and the development of the resources of the Area. It is important to note that participation in UNCLOS is open to all States, including non-UN Member States. The Cook Islands and Niue are examples of such States.

UNCLOS is complimented by two Implementing Agreements which were adopted in 1994 and 1995, namely, the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Part XI Agreement), and, the United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (the UN Fish Stocks Agreement).

Additionally, UNCLOS established three important institutions: the International Seabed Authority (ISA), with its headquarters in Kingston, Jamaica; the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), with its seat in Hamburg, Germany; and the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), a body of experts which is serviced by DOALOS.

² See A/RES/66/231, preamble.

The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, in the United Nations System

We will now briefly examine the position of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (“DOALOS” or “the Division”) in the UN system.

DOALOS, being one of the organizational units in the Office of Legal Affairs, is an integral part of the United Nations Secretariat. The United Nations Secretariat for its part, is one of the 6 principle organs of the United Nations (article 7, Charter of the United Nations), namely, the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice and the United Nations Secretariat. The Director of DOALOS is accountable to the Legal Counsel of the United Nations who, in turn, reports to the Secretary-General.

DOALOS is the focal point in the United Nations system for ocean affairs and the law of the sea. The Division’s main responsibilities relate to the discharge of the functions in the field of oceans affairs and the law of the sea entrusted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations under UNCLOS and related General Assembly resolutions. The Division to this effect, acts as the secretariat of the Convention.

DOALOS Structure and Facilities

In order to effectively discharge its mandate and carry out its functions and activities, the Division presently has a total of 31 multi-disciplinary staff composed of professionals, the majority of whom are lawyers, but there are also Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Officers. The Division is assisted in the discharge of its functions by a team of support staff.

The Division also has technical and infrastructure facilities which include 3 state-of-the-art GIS labs and a large conference room with audio-video equipment, personal computers, plotters and state-of-the-art network printers.

DOALOS: Mandate

UNCLOS entrusts to the Secretary-General numerous responsibilities which are carried out by DOALOS, for instance:

- depository functions related to the deposits of charts/coordinates: (arts.16, 47, 75, 76, 84);
- treaty depository functions: (287, 298, 306, 307, 317, 319, 320),
- due-publicity functions (art. 76);
- functions to circulate information to States parties (arts. 312, 313, 314);
- functions of convening and servicing Meetings of States Parties (art. 319), and meetings of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (Annex II); as well as
- secretariat services with regard to settlement of disputes (Annex III: articles 2, 3 – Annex V: article 7, 8 – Annex VI: article 4, 5 – Annex VII: article 2, 3, etc.)

The mandate of the Division stems from General Assembly resolution 37/66 of 3 December 1982³ that approved “the assumption by the Secretary-General of the responsibilities entrusted to him under the Convention”. General Assembly resolution 49/28 of 6 December 1994⁴ noted with appreciation “the functions and role of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, which has contributed to the wider acceptance and rational and consistent application of the provisions of the Convention.”

Additionally, the General Assembly, in its resolution 52/26 of 26 November 1997⁵, requested the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to him in the Convention and related General Assembly resolutions. Resolution 54/33 of 24 November 1999 further elaborates on the responsibilities of the Secretary-

³ A/RES/37/66, preamble.

⁴ A/RES/49/28, para.14.

⁵ A/RES/52/26, para. 11.

General by requesting the latter to undertake measures aimed at “[e]nsuring more effective collaboration and coordination between relevant parts of the Secretariat and the United Nations system as a whole on ocean affairs and the law of the sea.”⁶

Recently, in resolution 65/37 A of 7 December 2010, the General Assembly mandated DOALOS to be the secretariat of the Regular Process,⁷ designed to produce in 2014 the first comprehensive assessment of the state of the marine environment.

The mandate of DOALOS is confirmed and often expanded on an annual basis by the General Assembly in its resolutions on oceans affairs and the law of the sea and on sustainable fisheries.

DOALOS: Functions and Activities

Broadly speaking, DOALOS’ functions and activities aim at:

- Promoting universal participation in UNCLOS⁸;
- Facilitating the Conventions' uniform and consistent application;
- Assisting in the Conventions' implementation through- advice and assistance; servicing of meetings; cooperation and coordination; discharging Secretary-General’s responsibilities in monitoring and information dissemination.

These functions are set out in the Secretary-General's Bulletin of 1 August 2008 on the “*Organization of the Office of Legal Affairs*,”⁹ as well as in a number of General Assembly resolutions.

1. Annual reports on ocean affairs and the law of the sea

⁶ A/RES/54/33, para.8(a).

⁷ A/RES/65/37 A, para. 210.

⁸ As mentioned earlier, UNCLOS currently has 162 parties, including the E.U. [The Division has received information that two other States may soon accede to the Convention (Cambodia and Ecuador).

⁹ See *ST/SGB/2008/13, Organization of the Office of Legal Affairs* at http://iseek.un.org/webpgdept525_1.asp?dept=525

One of the Division’s primary functions is the preparation of comprehensive reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly. This year, the Division prepared the Secretary-General’s report for the thirteenth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on the law of the sea on the theme “Marine renewable energies”¹⁰

Two additional reports of the Secretary-General which will be released later this year are also being prepared by the Division:

- a comprehensive report for the consideration of the General assembly on issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea; and
- a report of the Secretary-General on Sustainable Fisheries.

DOALOS is also involved in the provision of advice, and carrying out of studies and research on UNCLOS’ implementation as well as on issues of a general or specific nature relating to the legal regime of the oceans.

2. Servicing of Meetings

Another major function of the Division is the discharging of important substantive secretariat functions. Secretariat services are provided to a number of processes established by the General Assembly, including the Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on oceans and the Law of the Sea as well as two Working Groups of the General Assembly- the Ad hoc Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction and the Ad hoc Working Group of the Whole on a Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socio-economic Aspects.

The Division also provides support to the General Assembly’s informal consultations on two draft resolutions, one on Oceans and the law of the sea and another on Sustainable fisheries. DOALOS further provides secretariat functions to the Meeting

¹⁰ A/67/79 (2012) of 4 April 2012.

of States Parties to the Convention and to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf. Secretariat services are also provided for meetings held in connection with the 1995 United Nations Agreement on Fish Stocks.

In addition to the above secretariat services, DOALOS also performs liaison functions for ITLOS and ISA, administers seven Trust Funds and provides technical assistance and capacity-building to States, upon request.

Servicing the General Assembly

We will now proceed to consider in a little more detail the meetings serviced by the Division, starting with the General Assembly.

In resolution 49/28 of 6 December 1994¹¹, the General Assembly confirmed that it was the global institution with the competence to undertake an annual review of the overall developments relating to the law of the sea. Every year, the General Assembly adopts two resolutions: one on Oceans and the law of the sea (Omnibus resolution) and the other on Sustainable fisheries.

The Division provides support to the intensive informal consultations of Member States that take place each year leading to the adoption of both resolutions. This year, the first round of informal consultations on the draft Omnibus resolution will be held from 1 to 5 October. They will be followed by the second round between 14 and 20 November. The informal consultations on the draft Sustainable fisheries resolution are scheduled for six days from 6 to 13 November. Thereafter, the General Assembly is scheduled to take up agenda item 76 entitled "Oceans and the Law of the Sea" on 10 and 11 December 2012.

¹¹ A/RES/49/28, preamble.

Secretariat services are also provided to Informal Consultations of the States Parties to the Fish Stocks Agreement convened by the Secretary-General at the request of the General Assembly (these consultations have considered, among other things, implementation of the Agreement and preparations for the Review Conference on the Agreement).

In 2006, four years after the entry into force of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement, a Review Conference was convened by the Secretary-General to assess the effectiveness of the Agreement in securing the conservation and management of straddling and highly migratory fish stocks. The Review Conference was resumed in 2010 and it was decided that it could be resumed again, at a date not earlier than 2015, to be agreed at a future round of Informal Consultations.

United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea

To ensure a more in-depth consideration of topical oceans-related issues, the General Assembly established in 1999 the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (“Informal Consultative Process” or “ICP”).

The Informal Consultative Process is, as its name suggests, informal in nature. It is open to all States Members of the United Nations, States members of the specialized agencies, parties to the Convention, entities with a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly, and intergovernmental organizations with competence in ocean affairs, such as the ISA, ITLOS and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. It is also open to representatives of non-governmental organizations (major groups identified in agenda 21).

It is coordinated by two Co-Chairs appointed by the President of the General Assembly, (currently Ambassadors Milan Jaya Meetarbhan (Mauritius) and Don MacKay

(New Zealand)). The ICP Co-Chairs’ summary of discussions contributes to the consideration by the General Assembly of its item, entitled “Oceans and the law of the sea”. In the past this summary has included consensual elements agreed by delegations at the meeting.

The purpose of the Informal Consultative Process is to facilitate the review by the General Assembly of developments in ocean affairs and the law of the sea by considering the annual reports of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea. Deliberations are usually held through the organization of discussion panels.

In particular, the Informal Consultative Process serves to identify areas where coordination and cooperation at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels should be enhanced. In the past meetings areas of focus included such issues as: marine scientific research; the protection and preservation of the marine environment; fisheries and their contribution to sustainable development; marine debris, ecosystem approaches, marine genetic resources, maritime security and safety and progress and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.¹²

This year, in its meeting held from 29 May to 1 June, the ICP discussed “marine renewable energies” (MREs). The meeting recognized that MREs were as yet an untapped source of energy. It was noted that there is a need to strengthen international cooperation to address challenges in the development of MREs, including research. Capacity-building as well as transfer of technology were considered essential elements of international cooperation and coordination.

Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction

¹² The topic on the major outcomes of major summits was chosen in order to provide input to the discussions at the Rio+20 Conference held from 20-22 June 2012, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In 2004, the General Assembly established an Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction.¹³ In 2011, the General Assembly decided that a process be initiated within the Working Group with a view to ensuring that the legal framework for such issues be effectively addressed. To this end, the General Assembly also requested the Working Group to identify gaps and ways forward which may include implementation of existing instruments and the possible development of a multilateral agreement under UNCLOS. At the request of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General has prepared 4 reports on environmental impact assessments undertaken with respect to planned activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction, including capacity-building needs, on the basis of information requested from States and competent international organizations.

The Working Group has met 5 times: in 2006, 2008, 2010, 2011 and 2012. The Co-Chairs for the last meeting held from 7 to 11 May 2012, were Ms. Lijnzaad (Netherlands) and Ambassador Kohona (Sri Lanka).

It is recalled that while all States agree on the need to address issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, there are divergent views on how best to address those issues. Some States are in favour of strengthening the implementation of existing instruments, including UNCLOS, while others are of the view that there are gaps in the existing legal framework that can only be addressed through the negotiation of a new multilateral agreement under UNCLOS.

The last meeting of the Working Group agreed to recommend to the up-coming sixty-seventh General Assembly to hold two intersessional workshops in the first part of 2013 to improve the understanding and clarify key questions for input to the meeting of the biodiversity Working Group. It was also recommended that the next meeting of the

¹³ See A/RES/59/24, para.73.

Working Group would be held in the second half of 2013 to provide recommendations to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session to make progress on ways forward.

In the coming months, the Division will be substantively involved in preparations for the convening of these workshops in accordance with the terms of reference (TORs) that were adopted at the last meeting of the Working Group. These TORs envisage two workshops of two-day duration each, with panelists to be proposed by Member States to the Co-Chairs of the Working Group who are expected to preside over the workshops.

The Working Group also recommended the use of existing trust funds to facilitate the participation of the panelists and representatives of developing countries, in particular among others, from Small Island Developing States. In addition to States, and consistent with applicable rules and procedures, voluntary financial contributions can also be received, at the appropriate time, from non-governmental organizations.

At the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development, States recognized the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction. They noted the ongoing work under the Working Group. Building on such work, they committed to address, on an urgent basis, the issue of the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, including by taking a decision on the development of an international instrument under UNCLOS, before the end of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly (September 2014 to September 2015).

Regular Process

It is well known that human activities and climate change are affecting the state of our marine environment. The formulation of sustainable, ecosystem-based management policies and measures for oceans and coasts thus needs to be supported by sound scientific assessments at national, regional and global scales. Assessments are important

because they can provide a scientific basis and rationale for policy, integrated management planning and the sustainable development of coastal and marine areas.

Following a recommendation of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development held in Johannesburg, South Africa, the Regular Process was established by the General Assembly with a view to strengthening the regular scientific assessment of the state of the marine environment in order to enhance the scientific basis for policymaking. This process is necessary for meeting the need for a better scientific understanding of the state of the marine environment which would inform policy decisions on how to manage human pressures on oceans.

The General Assembly decided that the task of the first cycle of the Regular Process (2010 to 2014) will consist in the preparation and release of the first global integrated marine assessment of the world's oceans and seas, including socio-economic aspects. Experts from all over the world will contribute to this task. Workshops are being organized in different regions of the world in order to support the first cycle of the Regular Process.

The most recent meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole was held from 23 to 27 April 2012. At that meeting, it was recommended that the outline for the first assessment be adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session. The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole urged the Group of Experts to finalize the Guidance for contributors as soon as possible, which will enable the pool of experts to start work on the preparation of the first global integrated marine assessments.

The Bureau for the Regular Process was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 66/231¹⁴ and meets intersessionally to put in practice the decisions and guidance of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole. It comprises the following Member States: Argentina, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Ecuador, Estonia, Ghana, Greece,

¹⁴ See A/RES/66/231, para. 206.

Kenya, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, and United States of America.

The Group of Experts for the Regular Process established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 65/37 A¹⁵, is currently composed of 22 experts and was selected to reflect wide geographical distribution. As noted previously, DOALOS was identified as the secretariat of the Regular Process in the same resolution.¹⁶

The Pool of Experts consists of individuals with expertise in the areas of marine science, environmental protection, maritime transport, coastal management, fisheries management and others and is appointed by States. There should be between 1000 – 1500 experts from this pool of experts to assist the Group of Experts in the preparation of the First Global Marine Intergrated Assessment, which is expected to be ready towards the end of 2014.

DOALOS supports the Regular Process and performs functions as secretariat for the Working Group, the Group of Experts and the Bureau, and administers two Trust Funds.

A Voluntary Trust Fund was established for the purpose of supporting the operations of the first five-year cycle of the Regular Process.¹⁷ The Ad Hoc Working Group recommended that the General Assembly should urge Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies and others to make financial contributions. Natural and juridical persons may also make financial contributions and even small contributions, if made regularly by a large number of States would, ideally, contribute effectively to supporting the activities of the Regular Process during this first cycle. The report of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group (A/67/87) can be found on the DOALOS website

¹⁵ See A/RES/65/37 A, para. 209.

¹⁶ See A/RES/65/37 A, para. 210.

¹⁷ See A/RES/65/37 A, para. 216.

The workshops held under the auspices of the United Nations and hosted by Member States in support of the Regular Process took place in Santiago, Chile, from 13 to 15 September 2011 and in Sanya, China, from 21 to 23 February 2012. The third workshop took place in Brussels, Belgium from 27 to 29 June 2012. Other regional workshops are expected to be held this year in the United States of America, Mozambique and Australia.

Each Workshop looks at the assessments which had been carried out in the regions and which assessments are still needed. The Workshops also discuss the need for capacity-building for assessments, methodologies and integration. It is hoped that the experts participating in these Workshops will also become members of the Pool of Experts.

In the outcome document of the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development, Member States expressed their support to the Regular Process and confirmed a target for the first global integrated marine assessment to be submitted to the General Assembly in 2014.

Meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS

The Meetings of States Parties to UNCLOS ("the Meeting") are convened in accordance with the Convention, which provides, in article 319, paragraph 2 (e), that the Secretary-General "shall convene necessary meetings of States Parties in accordance with this Convention".

Since November 1994 there have been 22 Meetings (the twenty-second meeting was held in June 2012). Among other things, the Meeting:

- elects the members of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (election of one third of the members takes place every three years) and

the members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
(election of all 21 members takes place every five years);

- considers, annually, the report of the Tribunal and deals with its budgetary and administrative matters;
- receives information provided by the Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority and the Chairman of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf on the activities of these bodies; and
- receives the Report of the Secretary-General (on oceans and the law of the sea) under article 319 for the information of States parties on issues of a general nature, relevant to States parties, that have arisen with respect to UNCLOS.

During the last Meeting, held from 4 to 11 June 2012, the Secretary-General of the ISA, Mr. Nii Odunton, reported to the Meeting on the activities of the Authority. Likewise, the President of ITLOS, Judge Shunji Yanai, presented his report on the work of the Tribunal, while the Registrar of the Tribunal, Mr. Philippe Gautier, reported on budget and finance matters.

The Chairperson of the CLCS, Galo Carrera Hurtado, made a statement providing information on the activities carried out by the Commission since the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties. The Chairperson also made a brief presentation in which he provided an overview of the status of the work of the Commission. In view of the expiration of the term of office on 15 June 2012 of the outgoing members of the Commission elected in 2007, the Meeting on 6 and 7 June 2012, elected 20 members of the Commission for a term of five years, commencing from 16 June 2012 and ending on 15 June 2017.

The President of the Meeting, Ambassador Isabelle Picco, the Permanent Representative of Monaco, noted that the Group of Eastern European States had nominated two candidates for the three seats it was entitled to. In this connection, the President stated that she had received a communication from the Chair of the Group of

Eastern European States requesting that the elections for one vacant seat allocated to the Eastern European States in the Commission in 2012 be postponed to a later date.

The Meeting decided to request the Secretary-General to open a three-month period (June 15 to October 16 2012), to allow for nominations from amongst the Group of Eastern European States, and to convene a (special) Meeting of States Parties to elect at a date to be determined later, the remaining member of the Commission. This member will serve from the date of election until 15 June 2017.

The Meeting also decided to request the Commission, notwithstanding the vacant Eastern European seat, to resume its work as planned and to continue to discharge its functions, including the adoption of recommendations, in accordance with article 76 and Annex II to the Convention and its Rules of Procedure effectively and efficiently. Delegations expressed their appreciation to the outgoing members of the Commission for their work, dedication and results achieved.

The Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf- Purpose and Workload

We will now look in more detail at the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (“the Commission” or “the CLCS”), particularly its purpose, workload and challenges.

As a point of departure, it is worth noting that the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf is important for coastal States and the rest of the international community for a number of reasons, including the following:

(i) the delineation of the extent of sovereign rights and jurisdiction over the resources of the continental shelf is important for their exploration and exploitation. Large areas of sea-bed and subsoil thereof are involved; and

(ii) the area of the sea-bed and subsoil thereof beyond outer limits of national jurisdiction is considered to be the “common heritage of mankind” (the Area).

Thus, the delineation by coastal States of the outer limits of the continental shelf is of interest to all States in view of the need to define the limits of the Area and to allow for exploration and exploitation of its resources administered by the International Seabed Authority.

A coastal State intending to establish the outer limits to its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles has an obligation to submit particulars of such limits to the Commission along with supporting scientific and technical data. The recommendations of the Commission are based on a detailed examination of the scientific and technical data and information included by States in their submissions

Submissions and Preliminary information

The total number of submissions received to date is 61. The first submission came from the Russian Federation on 20 December 2001 while the most recent submission from Denmark in respect of the Southern Continental Shelf of Greenland was received on 14 June 2012.¹⁸ The Division has also received 45 sets of preliminary information regarding future submissions pursuant to a decision of the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties.¹⁹

¹⁸ See Annex I, List of submissions in chronological order.

¹⁹ The eighteenth Meeting of States Parties decided regarding the workload of the Commission and the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the Convention, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a) in decision SPLOS/183, that States may submit to the Secretary-General preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles pending a submission. 46 such notes have been received between 2009 and 2010, and for a number of these areas, the submission has since been received by the Commission. The decision in SPLOS/72 paragraph (a) is available through link at <http://www.un.doalos.org>. See Annex II, Preliminary information submitted to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, List of notes in alphabetical order.

To date, the CLCS has issued recommendations on 18 submissions. The Secretary-General gives due publicity to the summary of the recommendations which does not include any confidential or proprietary information contained in the submission.

Three States (Ireland, Mexico and the Philippines), have so far delineated the outer limits of their continental shelves on the basis of the CLCS recommendations, and deposited with the Secretary-General relevant data, including lists of geographical coordinates of points, making these limits final and binding.

At present, 42 submissions are in queue while 2 submissions from Uruguay and the Cook Islands are under active consideration. This is likely to change following the thirtieth plenary session of the Commission scheduled to be held from 30 July to 10 August 2012.²⁰

DOALOS as Secretariat of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

As far as the servicing of the Commission by the Division is concerned, the main activities are:

- Receiving submissions from coastal States and giving publicity to their executive summaries as well as verifying the integrity and consistency of the documentation;
- Organizing and servicing the meetings of the Commission and its Subcommissions;
- Facilitating the consideration of submissions by the Commission and its Subcommissions in accordance with the CLCS' Rules of Procedure, including through the preparation of the agenda and scheduling of meetings with representatives of the submitting State, provision of

²⁰ Following the thirtieth session of the Commission, new Subcommissions were established to consider the submissions made by Argentina, Denmark in the area North of the Faroe Islands, Ghana, and Iceland in the Ægir Basin area and in the Western and Southern parts of Reykjanes Ridge.

considerably complex and extensive GIS and other technical support, including the use of the Division's GIS facilities; and

- Management of two Trust Funds (for Commission Members and for preparation of submissions). During the last plenary session of the CLCS in April 2012, 6 Members received assistance to defray the costs associated with their participation. To date 17 States have received assistance for the preparation of their submissions to the CLCS.

Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf: Legal Challenges

It should be noted that although Members of the CLCS are geologists, geophysicists and hydrographers, they are sometimes faced with legal issues including with regard to submissions received from States.

In the past, legal opinions have been sought from the Legal Counsel of the United Nations, who has at the request of the Commission, provided 3 legal opinions to date as follows:

- legal opinion of 11 March 1998 on the applicability of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations to the members of the Commission, CLCS/5;
- legal opinion of 30 April 1999 as to the most appropriate procedure in cases where it might be necessary to institute proceedings following an alleged breach of confidentiality, CLCS/14; and
- legal opinion of 25 August 2005 on whether it is permissible, under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the rules of procedure of the Commission, for a coastal State, which has made a submission to the Commission in accordance with article 76 of the Convention, to provide to the Commission in the course of the examination by it of the submission, additional material and information relating to the limits of its continental shelf or substantial part thereof,

which constitute a significant departure from the original limits and formulae lines that were given due publicity by the Secretary- General of the United Nations in accordance with rule 50 of the rules of procedure of the Commission, CLCS/46.]

In view of disputes brought to attention of Commission, the consideration of certain submissions has been deferred. A total of 17 submissions where States have informed the Commission of a dispute have been deferred by the Commission.²¹

The CLCS during its twenty-ninth plenary session noted that, in at least one case, the circumstances which had led to the postponement of the consideration of the submission might no longer exist. However, it was of the view that in order to be able to proceed with the establishment of a subcommission and the consideration of the submission, an official communication from the States concerned would be required (CLCS/74, para.59). One of the two States has recently informed the Commission that the circumstances no longer exist and urged the Commission to proceed with the establishment of a subcommission to qualify the Submission.²²

Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf- Workload, Concerns, Solutions

Mindful of the ever-increasing workload of the Commission over the years, the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention requested the Commission to "consider, in coordination with the Secretariat, in addition to those measures provided for in subparagraphs (a) to (f) of paragraph 1 the decision of the twentieth Meeting of States Parties (SPLOS/216), as from 16 June 2012, within the existing resources made available to the Secretariat, that the Commission, and its subcommissions meeting simultaneously as far as possible, meet in New York for up to 26 weeks but not less than an intended minimum of 21 weeks a year for a period of five years, distributed in such a way that the

²¹ See Annex III, Table of Submissions in connection with which information of a dispute has been received

²² Following the Seminar, the matter was considered by the Commission during the plenary part of its thirtieth session.

Commission determines to be the most effective, and that no two sessions be sequential."²³

In light of this, the Commission has noted concerns regarding income substitution for Members during prolonged periods in New York, travel and accommodation expenses as well as health coverage while performing Commission functions in New York.

During the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties, a call was made to address new working conditions of the Commission.²⁴ In this regard, the General Assembly in resolution 66/231, took note of the decision of the twenty-first Meeting of States Parties to the Convention regarding the workload of the Commission.²⁵

CLCS-Secretariat Needs

The General Assembly in resolution 66/231, requested the Secretary-General to, inter alia, establish additional posts to reinforce the geographic information system, legal and administrative support to the Commission by DOALOS.²⁶ This is important given the increase in the workload of the Commission.

Newly-elected Commission²⁷

During the forthcoming thirtieth plenary session of the CLCS, the Commission will amongst other things, have on its agenda the following: solemn declaration by the members of the Commission; election of the Chairperson and Vice- Chairpersons of the

²³ See SPLOS/229, para. 1.

²⁴ See SPLOS/231, para.107.

²⁵ See A/RES/66/231, para. 58. During its thirtieth session, the Commission decided to meet in 2013 for three sessions of 7 weeks each per year, making an annual total of 21 weeks.

²⁶ See A/RES/66/231, para. 64.

²⁷ See Annex IV, List of newly-elected members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

Commission; appointment of the members of the subcommissions and other subsidiary bodies; workload of the Commission and the consideration of submissions.²⁸

DOALOS Cooperation and Coordination

It is well established that UNCLOS is the main treaty on the law of the sea. However, a myriad of other instruments, as well as institutions, are critical in this area. The Law of the Sea, in turn, is interconnected with other branches of international law, such as – for instance – environmental law, trade law, human rights law, just to name a few.

This being the case, DOALOS cooperates and coordinates with UN system organizations and programmes such as:

- IMO on issues concerning shipping and navigation, piracy and armed robbery against ships (reporting, exchange of information, participation in meetings);
- FAO on fisheries issues (joint publications, reporting, exchange of information; participation in meetings);
- IOC/UNESCO on marine scientific research, marine science and technology issues (exchange of information, participation in meetings, e.g. Advisory Body of Experts on the Law of the Sea (ABE-LOS))
- UNESCO on issues concerning underwater cultural heritage;
- UNEP on issues concerning regional seas programmes and action plans (e.g. North-East Pacific); and
- UNDP (e.g. on the Large Marine Ecosystem programme).

One of the important tasks of the Division is to monitor developments within these organizations. On the basis of reports provided to the Division on their activities, DOALOS prepares annual comprehensive reports on ocean and the law of the sea, as

²⁸ Following the seminar, the Commission held its thirtieth session. During the plenary part of the session (30 July to 10 August), these matters were addressed. The Statement of the Chairperson will be issued as document CLCS/74.

well as on specific topics to assist Member States in setting the agenda and the programmes of work of such meetings as the ICP and the Ad hoc Working Group on Biodiversity.

The need for even greater cooperation and coordination, as called for at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable development, has led to the establishment of an inter-agency mechanism for cooperation and coordination, called UN-Oceans. UN-Oceans is composed of the relevant programmes, bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, secretariats of financial institutions, such as the World Bank, secretariats of the relevant United Nations global environmental conventions, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as the International Seabed Authority.

DOALOS has been a member of UN-Oceans since its establishment in 2005, and is participating in the review of UN-Oceans by the Joint Inspection Unit. This review was mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/231.²⁹ In accordance with the same resolution, in collaboration with the other UN-Oceans members, the Division is also actively involved in the preparation of draft terms of reference for UN-Oceans.³⁰

DOALOS Liaison functions with ITLOS and ISA

Let me briefly touch upon the functions of DOALOS in relation to the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and the International Seabed Authority (ISA).

Although ITLOS has observer status with the United Nations, DOALOS also serves as the liaison office between ITLOS and the United Nations. In that regard, the Agreement on Cooperation and Relationship of 18 December 1997 outlines the following:

²⁹ See A/RES/66/231, para. 239.

³⁰ Ibid.

- Cooperation and coordination on matters of mutual concern;
- Exchange of information and documents;
- Reports to the United Nations; and
- Personnel arrangements - Conference services - Administrative cooperation, including budgetary and financial relationships.

The ISA also has observer status with the United Nations. The Organization has concluded with the ISA an Agreement concerning the relationship between the United Nations and the International Seabed Authority (14 July 1997), which outlines the following:

- Cooperation and coordination;
- Assistance to the Security Council at its request with respect to such information and assistance as may be required in the exercise of its responsibility for the maintenance or restoration of international peace and security;
- Cooperation on several matters including, exchange of information between the United Nations and the Tribunal;
- Reciprocity of representation in each others meetings;
- Exchange of information, data and documents; and
- Other mutually supportive activities.

Technical Assistance/Capacity Building

The Division offers a number of capacity-building tools aimed at assisting States in implementing and deriving benefits from the Convention. This includes human resource development for developing coastal States Parties and non-Parties to the Convention in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea or related disciplines.

(a) United Nations/Nippon Foundation Fellowship

On 22 April 2004, the United Nations and The Nippon Foundation of Japan concluded a trust fund project agreement to provide capacity-building and human resource development to developing coastal States Parties and non-Parties to UNCLOS through academic and fellowship opportunities. There are currently over 40 partner academic institutions participating in the programme, allowing fellows to undertake highly-customized research projects. A highly organized and very engaged alumni network has been built, which produces newsletters, maintains a website and is engaging in academic publications. Three alumni meetings have been held between 2009 and 2011 (Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and Africa). A fourth meeting will be held in New York in December 2012 to coincide with the 30th Anniversary of the opening for signature of UNCLOS.

(b) The Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea

This fellowship is a uniquely important tool for capacity-building. It is also a living testimonial to an outstanding diplomat and pivotal negotiator of UNCLOS. Owing to his contribution towards the adoption of UNCLOS, the General Assembly in 1981 established the Fellowship to honour the memory of the late Ambassador Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe from Sri Lanka. To date, the Division has made 28 awards. The award for 2011 was given to a Fellow from Indonesia.

Both the Amerasinghe and Nippon Foundation Fellowships envisage a fully-funded, 6-to 9-month Fellowship programme in ocean affairs and law of the sea, composed of:

- A 3- to 6-month phase (phase 1), hosted by 1 of the 15 prestigious participating academic host institutions for research and study programmes, followed by,
- A 3-month phase (phase 2), hosted by DOALOS for research and first-hand exposure to the practical work of our Division.

(c) Training Courses on the delineation of the outer limits of the Continental Shelf

These Courses provide training to the appropriate officials of States. Having delivered a series of 8 regional training courses, this course is now available at the request of States interested in receiving such trainings. The most recent training at the request of the government of Angola was the “National Workshop on the Legal and Scientific Aspects for the Preparation of Submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (16-20 May 2011 - Luanda, Angola)”. Attendees included over 60 technical and legal professionals from the Ministries and other national agencies, as well as from the academia. Angola is expected to make a submission to the Commission by the end of 2013.

(d) Briefings and Training Workshops

The Division also participates in briefings and training workshops on various topics related to oceans and law of the sea organized by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (targeted at young diplomats in New York), as well as by other institutions.

Trust Funds

In addition to the capacity-building activities it carries out, another key aspect of the Division’s work is its administration of 7 Trust Funds as follows:

- Trust fund to assist members of the CLCS from developing States to participate in the meetings;
- Trust fund to facilitate the preparation of submissions to the CLCS for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States;
- Voluntary trust fund to assist developing countries in attending meetings of the UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea;
- Voluntary Trust Fund for the Regular process;

- Trust fund to assist States in their settlement of disputes through ITLOS approximately:
- Assistance fund under Part VII of the UN Fish Stocks Agreement; and
- Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship Programme.

Continued contributions are essential to sustaining the effectiveness of these Funds.

Monitoring and Dissemination

The Division has an extensive library and a website for dissemination of information. It also prepares a number of ad hoc and periodical publications on various topics related to the law of the sea.

The Law of the Sea Library, which was established during the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, is a specialized reference collection held by DOALOS. It contains books, journals, documentation and electronic resources dealing with the law of the sea, as well as the United Nations and international law in general.

Its extensive holdings related to the law of the sea, many of which are not found elsewhere, are available for consultation by DOALOS staff and United Nations staff members as well as students, lawyers, delegates and other members of the international community interested in the law of the sea and ocean affairs.

Additionally, the Division has issued a considerable number of publications, such as:

- Texts of UNCLOS and Implementing Agreements with Indexes;
- Legislative Histories (Proposals, Statements and Negotiating Texts Presented at the United Nations Conference on the Law of The Sea which led to the Final Text of UNCLOS);

- Compilations of national legislation and practice of States, including State-to-State relations as indicated by bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements;
- Publications concerning technical aspects of the Convention e.g., baselines, definition of the continental shelf, delimitation of maritime boundaries; marine scientific research;
- Bibliographies dealing with the law of the Sea (latest Issued In 2010); and
- Law of the Sea Bulletins (a periodical publication).

It is important to note that these information dissemination tools assist the Division to discharge the Secretary-General’s deposit and due publicity functions.

The Division constantly updates its website to reflect recent developments, including in particular, all the activities linked to the 30th anniversary of the opening for signature of UNCLOS.

UNCLOS 30th Anniversary

As previously noted, we are celebrating this year the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention.

Over the past thirty years, the Convention or the “constitution for the oceans” has provided the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out. The thirtieth anniversary of the Convention, therefore, provides an opportunity to not only commemorate its adoption, but also to assess the status of its implementation, bearing in mind the challenges in its application, at the national and regional levels. The overarching significance of the Convention for the strengthening of international peace and security as well as for concerted action towards sustainable development of the oceans and seas should not be underestimated.

Various events have been, and will be, held this year to mark the occasion, culminating in a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on 10 December.

On 8 June when we celebrated World Oceans Day, a successful round table panel discussion took place on “UNCLOS at 30”, with the participation of the Secretary-General. Ambassador Raymond Wolfe, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, moderated the panel discussion which involved the President of ITLOS, the Secretary-General of the ISA, the Chairperson of the Commission, and Dr. Yohei Sasakawa, Chairman, The Nippon Foundation of Japan.

On that same day, during the Meeting of States Parties, commemorative statements were made by many delegations. All delegates received mugs, pins and posters and in the evening a reception was hosted at United Nations Headquarters. The Empire State Building in New York was also lit in the colours purple, blue and white to commemorate this day, and commemorative postal stamps were made available for purchase. A commemorative brochure and booklet are also being published. These activities could not have taken place without the generous financial and in-kind contributions received from Permanent Missions in New York and other institutions.

For its part, the General Assembly has decided to devote two days of plenary meetings at its sixty-seventh session, on 10 and 11 December 2012, to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention. It decided in resolution 66/231 to encourage Member States and observers to be represented at the highest possible level.³¹ The General Assembly also welcomed the Decision of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority to convene a special meeting during its eighteenth session (24 and 25 July 2012), to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary.³²

An international conference is being organized at the Yeosu World Expo, Republic of Korea, on 12 August 2012 under the theme “Commemorating the 30th Anniversary of the Opening for Signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”. The Conference is co-sponsored by the United Nations (Division for Ocean

³¹ See A/RES/66/231, para. 245.

³² See A/RES/66/231, para. 247.

Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea and the Korea Maritime Institute, in cooperation with the Organizing Committee for the Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea. It is expected that the Secretary-General will launch an Oceans Compact during this conference.³³

All States and relevant bodies and organizations are invited to take part in these activities and to otherwise celebrate this important occasion. In this regard, the Division continues to reach out to and collaborate with delegations and other partners to make the celebration a memorable one.

World Oceans’ Day Panel Discussion

On the occasion of World Oceans Day and the marking of the 30th Anniversary of UNCLOS during the last Meeting of States Parties at United Nations Headquarters, New York, Dr. Sasakawa in his statement on “The importance of human capacity in the implementation of the Convention and beyond”, reported that the Nippon Foundation has thus far trained over 700 maritime law and policy experts from over 100 countries, and has fostered the development of a network of these individuals thereby reinforcing their ability to effectively address ocean problems.

Dr. Sasakawa informed the Meeting that the Nippon Foundation was planning to introduce a new initiative to identify maritime issues through a ten year, high-level dialogue process, and establish new capacity-building programs in response to needs identified by such a process. He expressed the hope that this initiative would contribute to the implementation of international ocean commitments.

³³ Following the seminar, on 12 August 2012, the Secretary-General launched the Oceans Compact at the Yeosu Conference. The “Oceans Compact” is an initiative to strengthen United Nations system-wide coherence to deliver on its oceans-related mandates.

Rio+20 Conference and Outcome

The oceans was one of the 7 critical issues which were the focus of discussions and negotiations at the Rio+20 Conference held this year from 20 to 22 June 2012. The heightened interest in oceans resulted in 21 paragraphs related to “Oceans and seas” (paras. 158 to 177) and on “Small island developing States” (paras. 178 to 189) being included in the outcome document.

Some of the salient points in the outcome document of the Conference which are related to oceans and the law of the sea, and also which impact on DOALOS mandate, are reflected below.

Notably, the document recognizes the importance of the legal framework provided by UNCLOS, including for achieving sustainable development and calls upon States to implement their obligations under it.

It should be noted that the negotiations of the oceans and sea section were only concluded the day before the Conference because of the divergent views that remain on the issue of how to address the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction.

Finally, it is worth noting that various other issues are addressed in the document directly relating to oceans issues, such as vulnerable marine ecosystems, fisheries, impacts of climate change, ocean acidification, sea level rise; ocean fertilization, and the issue of marine debris.

DOALOS’ Participation

Various side events on ocean related issues were also organized in the margins of the Conference and the period prior to it. DOALOS made a presentation in particular, at the “Oceans Day at Rio” organized by the Global Ocean Forum. DOALOS also made a

short statement in the sustainable dialogues on oceans organized by the Government of Brazil whose conclusions and recommendations were reported to one of the four roundtables.

Additionally, DOALOS assisted the Secretariat of the Conference in providing the relevant information about the General Assembly processes, in particular the Working Group on marine biodiversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction and the Regular Process on the state of the marine environment including socio economic aspects. Reflecting the importance of the oceans theme, DOALOS participated in the Conference under the agreement with the host country as part of the secretariat.

ANNEX I**Submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
List of submissions in chronological order**

1. Russian Federation
2. Brazil
3. Australia
4. Ireland - Porcupine Abyssal Plain
5. New Zealand
6. Joint submission by France, Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - in the area of the Celtic Sea and the Bay of Biscay
7. Norway - in the North East Atlantic and the Arctic
8. France - in respect of the areas of French Guiana and New Caledonia
9. Mexico - in respect of the western polygon in the Gulf of Mexico
10. Barbados
11. Barbados - revised
12. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - Ascension Island
13. Indonesia - North West of Sumatra Island
14. Japan
15. Joint submission by the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Seychelles - in the region of the Mascarene Plateau
16. Suriname
17. Myanmar
18. France - areas of the French Antilles and the Kerguelen Islands
19. Yemen - in respect of south east of Socotra Island
20. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - in respect of Hatton Rockall Area
21. Ireland - in respect of Hatton-Rockall Area
22. Uruguay
23. Philippines - in the Benham Rise region
24. The Cook Islands - concerning the Manihiki Plateau
25. Fiji
26. Argentina
27. Ghana
28. Iceland - in the Ægir Basin area and in the western and southern parts of Reykjanes Ridge
29. Denmark - in the area north of the Faroe Islands
30. Pakistan
31. Norway - in respect of Bouvetøya and Dronning Maud Land
32. South Africa - in respect of the mainland of the territory of the Republic of South Africa
33. Joint submission by the Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands - concerning the Ontong Java Plateau
34. Joint submission by Malaysia and Viet Nam - in the southern part of the South China Sea

35. Joint submission by France and South Africa - in the area of the Crozet Archipelago and the Prince Edward Islands
36. Kenya
37. Mauritius - in the region of Rodrigues Island
38. Viet Nam - in North Area (VNM-N)
39. Nigeria
40. Seychelles - concerning the Northern Plateau Region
41. France - in respect of La Réunion Island and Saint-Paul and Amsterdam Islands
42. Palau
43. Côte d'Ivoire
44. Sri Lanka
45. Portugal
46. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland - in respect of the Falkland Islands, and of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
47. Tonga
48. Spain - in respect of the area of Galicia
49. India
50. Trinidad and Tobago
51. Namibia
52. Cuba
53. Mozambique
54. Maldives
55. Denmark - Faroe-Rockall Plateau Region
56. Bangladesh
57. Madagascar
58. Guyana
59. Mexico - in respect of the eastern polygon in the Gulf of Mexico
60. United Republic of Tanzania
61. Gabon
62. Denmark - in respect of the Southern Continental Shelf of Greenland

ANNEX II**Preliminary information submitted to the
Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
List of notes in alphabetical order**

1. Angola
2. Bahamas
3. Bénin
4. Bénin et Togo
5. Brunei Darussalam
6. Cameroon
7. Cape Verde
8. Chile
9. China
10. Comoros
11. Congo
12. Costa Rica
13. Cuba
14. Democratic Republic of the Congo
15. Equatorial Guinea
16. Fiji in respect of the South East Region of the North Fiji Basin, Lau-Colville,
Tonga-Kermadec Complex
17. Fiji and Solomon Islands on the Charlotte Bank Region
18. Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu on the North Fiji Basin
19. France - Polynésie française et Wallis et Futuna
20. France - Saint-Pierre-et-Miquelon
21. Gabon
22. Gambia
23. Guinea
24. Guinea-Bissau
25. Guyana
26. Mauritania
27. Mauritius in the Chagos Archipelago Region
28. Mexico en el polígono oriental del Golfo de México
29. Micronesia (Federated States of) for the Eauripik Rise and Mussau Ridge Areas
30. Mozambique
31. New Zealand - Tokelau
32. Nicaragua
33. Oman in respect of the area that includes the narrow bathymetric shelf adjacent to
the land mass of Oman, the Owen basin, and the Owen Ridge, and that abuts the
deep ocean floor of the Arabian Indian Sea
34. Papua New Guinea for the Mussau Ridge and Eauripik Rise Areas
35. Republic of Korea
36. Sao Tome and Principe
37. Senegal

38. Seychelles in the Aldabra Island Region
39. Sierra Leone
40. Solomon Islands
41. Somalia
42. Spain en el área al Oeste de las Islas Canarias
43. Togo
44. United Republic of Tanzania
45. Vanuatu

ANNEX III

**Table of Submissions in connection with which
information of a dispute has been received**

Submission	Broad Nature of Dispute
Russian Federation	Territory dispute
France (French Guiana and New Caledonia)	Territory dispute
Myanmar	Paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Yemen (South East of Socotra Island)	Delimitation issues
United Kingdom (Hatton Rockall Area)	Rule 46 and paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Ireland (Hatton-Rockall Area)	Rule 46 and paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Fiji	Paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Argentina	Territory dispute in part of submission
Malaysia-Viet Nam (South China Sea)	Paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Viet Nam (North Area)	Paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Palau	Paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
United Kingdom (Falkland Islands (Malvinas), South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands)	Territory dispute
India	Paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Maldives	Delimitation issues
Denmark (Faroes Rockall Plateau)	Rule 46 and paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure invoked
Bangladesh	Submitting State agreed there was dispute in context of rule 46 and paragraph 5(a) of annex I of rules of procedure
Guyana	Territory dispute

ANNEX IV
List of newly-elected members of the
Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

Name	Nationality	
Arshad, Muhammad	Pakistan	newly elected
Awosika, Lawrence Folajimi	Nigeria	re-elected
Carrera Hurtado, Galo	Mexico	re-elected
Charles, Francis L.	Trinidad and Tobago	re-elected
Glumov, Ivan F.	Russian Federation	newly elected
Haworth, Richard Thomas	Canada and United Kingdom	newly elected
Heinesen, Martin Vang	Denmark	newly elected
Jaoshvili, George	Georgia	re-elected
Kalngui, Emmanuel	Cameroon	re-elected
Lu, Wenzheng	China	re-elected
Madon, Mazlan Bin	Malaysia	newly elected
Mahanjane, Esteveao Stefane	Mozambique	newly elected
Marques, Jair Alberto Ribas	Brazil	newly elected
Njuguna, Simon	Kenya	newly elected
Oduro, Isaac Owusu	Ghana	re-elected
Park, Yong Ahn	Republic of Korea	re-elected
Paterlini, Carlos Marcelo	Argentina	newly elected
Rajan, Sivaramakrishnan	India	re-elected
Roest, Walter R.	Netherlands	newly elected
Urabe, Tetsuro	Japan	re-elected