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Unofficial Translation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates presents its best greetings to the General Secretariat of the United Nations- Office of His Excellency UN Secretary General- New York.

With reference to the Secretary-General's communication No M.Z.N.77.2010.LOS of 25 March 2010 regarding the deposit by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on 5 March 2010 of lists of geographical coordinates of points defining the baselines of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the Red Sea, the Gulf Aqaba and the Arabian Gulf.

The Government of the United Arab Emirates reserves its position in general as to the validity under international law of the Saudi baselines, and in particular those set out in Table No. 3 attached to the Saudi Royal Decree No. M/4of 12 January 2010.

In the view of the Government of the United Arab Emirates, the baselines set out in Table No. 3 do not comply with the requirements of customary international law reflected in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, including in particular Article 7. The baselines are not situated in a locality where the coastline is deeply indented and cut into or there is a fringe of islands. Moreover, the baselines set out in Table No. 3 depart appreciably from the general direction of the Saudi coast and are not drawn by reference to appropriate basepoints. One of the basepoints is located in open waters, whereas another is located on a formation which does not qualify as an appropriate basepoint under Article 7 of the 1982 United Nations convention on the Law of the Sea.



The baselines set out in Table No.3 also cut off areas of the territorial sea of the United Arab Emirates in a manner inconsistent, *inter alia*, with the requirements of customary international law reflected in Article 15 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The Government of the United Arab Emirates considers this Note an official document and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to register, publish and circulate this Note in accordance with the usual UN practice.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates avails itself of this opportunity to express to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration

To the General Secretariat of the United Nations- Office of His Excellency UN Secretary General- New York

