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Central America

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Government House

Government of Reconciliation and National Unity United Nicaragua Triumphs

Decree No. 33-2013

The President of the Republic
Comandante Daniel Ortega Saavedra,

Considering

I

That in accordance with Article 10 of the Political Constitution of the Republic of Nicaragua, the sovereignty, jurisdiction and rights of Nicaragua extend to the adjacent islands, cays and banks, as well as the internal waters, the territorial sea, the contiguous zone, the continental shelf, the exclusive economic zone and the corresponding airspace, in accordance with the law and the standards of international law,

II

That on 3 May 2000 the Republic of Nicaragua ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, an instrument that brings together the essential principles guaranteeing the rights of States in their marine areas,

III

That on 5 March 2002 the Republic of Nicaragua, in the interests of strengthening international law and its commitment to international law, adopted Law No. 420 on Marine Areas of Nicaragua,

IV

That the Caribbean coast of Nicaragua has a special configuration owing to the presence of numerous coastal islands closely linked by their history and economy to the mainland, and also owing to the fact that the coastline is deeply indented and cut into, and that it is of vital importance to maintain the territorial integrity, peace and security of the nation,

V

That the International Court of Justice issued a historic judgement on 19 November 2012 regarding the Territorial and Maritime Delimitation between Nicaragua and Colombia in the Caribbean Sea, in which it found that the islands adjacent to the coast of Nicaragua in the Caribbean Sea are part of the respective coast and contribute to the establishment of the baselines,

VI

That in view of the foregoing, the Republic of Nicaragua in the exercise of its full sovereignty over its marine areas and in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and Law No. 420 on Marine Areas of Nicaragua, is proceeding to determine the straight baselines from which to measure the breadth of its marine areas in the Caribbean Sea,

In the exercise of the powers granted to him by the Political Constitution,
Has issued the following:

Decree

Baselines of the Marine Areas of the Republic of Nicaragua in the Caribbean Sea

Article 1. The straight baselines of the Republic of Nicaragua to be used to measure the breadth of its territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf in the Caribbean Sea shall be established.

Article 2. The baselines shall be determined by the geographical coordinates set forth in Annex I, as indicated in the chart that is included as Annex II to this Decree. Both annexes shall constitute an integral part of this Decree.

Article 3. The waters located within the interior of the baselines established under Article 1 of this Decree shall form part of the internal waters of the Republic of Nicaragua in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

Article 4. In compliance with the provisions of Article 16, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, this decree shall be duly publicized and a copy thereof, together with the annexes, shall be deposited with the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Article 5. All legal provisions or regulations that contradict this decree shall be repealed.

Article 6. This decree shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the official journal La Gaceta.

DONE in the City of Managua, Government House, Republic of Nicaragua, on 19 August 2013.

Daniel Ortega Saavedra,
President of the Republic of Nicaragua

Paul Oquist Kelley,
Private Secretary for National Policies

Annex I

Straight baselines of Nicaragua in the Caribbean Sea WGS84 datum geographical coordinates

<i>Item No.</i>	<i>Latitude (N) Deg. Min. Sec.</i>	<i>Longitude (W) Deg. Min. Sec.</i>	<i>Name</i>
1	15 00 05.9	083 07 43.0	Cabo Gracias a Dios
2	14 49 15.8	082 41 00.0	Edinburgh Cay
3	14 22 31.2	082 44 06.1	Miskito Cays
4	14 08 40.6	082 48 29.0	Ned Thomas Cay
5	13 03 11.6	083 20 38.6	Man of War Cays
6	12 56 10.8	083 17 31.9	East of Great Tyra Cay
7	12 16 55.5	082 57 54.0	Isla del Maiz Pequeña (Little Corn Island)
8	12 10 39.3	083 01 49.9	Isla del Maiz Grande (Great Corn Island)
9	10 55 52.0	083 39 58.1	Harbour Head