



**Decree No( 317 ) year 2014**  
**Concerning the Delimitation of the Marine Areas**  
**Pertaining to the State of Kuwait and its amendment**

Having regard to the constitution. And act 12 (1964), regarding the Prevention of oil Pollution of the Navigable Waters and its amending laws.

And act 48 (1966) accepting the convention concluded between the state of Kuwait and the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, concerning the division of the neutral zone.

And act 15 (1986) concerning ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

And act 35 (2000) accepting an Agreement between the state of Kuwait and the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, concerning the submerged area adjacent to the divided Zone.

And the Decree issued on 17 December 1967, on delimiting of the breadth of the territorial sea of the State of Kuwait.

And Security Council resolution 833 (1993), concerning the demarcation of the boundary between the state of Kuwait and Republic of Iraq, adopted on 27 May 1993.

And based on presentation by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Interior, and Defense,

And the approval of the Council of Ministers

We decree as follows:

**ARTICLE 1**

In applying the provisions of this Decree, the following words and terms shall have the meaning as indicated below:

Normal baselines: are the base lines from which the breadth of the territorial sea and another marine areas pertaining to the State of Kuwait are measured, as established by article 2 of this decree.

Island: A naturally formed area, surrounded by water, which is above the water at high tide.

Low-tide elevation: a naturally formed area of land, which is, surrounded and above water at low-tide, but submerged at high-tide.

Nautical mile: A unit of measurement of distance equal to 1852 meters.





## Article 2

The Normal Baselines are determined as follows:

- (a) When the coast of the mainland, or the coast of a Kuwaiti island, faces the open sea, the normal baseline shall be the low-water line along the coast.
- (b) When there is a port on the coast, the outermost seaward permanent harbor works are regarded as forming part of the coast.
- (c) When there is an elevation of land above the water at low-tide, at a distance, not exceeding 12 miles, from the coast of Kuwait's mainland or Kuwaiti island, the outer edge of the elevation shall be regarded as the normal baseline.
- (d) In accordance with the Annex 3, of the aforementioned act 12 (1964), the baseline of the Bay of Kuwait, shall be the line closing the Bay, and the waters contained therein, shall be considered internal waters.

## Article 3

The internal waters of the State of Kuwait, are the waters on the landward side of the normal baseline of the coast of the Kuwaiti mainland or any Kuwaiti island.

## Article 4

The breadth of the territorial sea of the State of Kuwait shall be 12 nautical miles, measured from the normal baselines of the coast of the Kuwaiti mainland and of the Kuwaiti islands. When there is an overlapping between the Kuwaiti territorial sea, in accordance with the provisions of this Decree, and that of an opposite or adjacent state, and in the absence of an agreement delimiting the marine boundary, the median line shall be considered the outer limit of the territorial sea of Kuwait.

## Article 5 \*

The State of Kuwait has a contiguous zone adjoining its territorial sea, extending to a distance of 12 nautical miles from the outer limit of the territorial sea of the State of Kuwait, where it shall exercise control to prevent infringement of its customs, fiscal, immigration or sanitary laws and regulations within its territory or territorial sea and to punish infringements of those laws and regulations.

When the contiguous zone of the State of Kuwait overlap with the contiguous zone of an opposite or adjacent state, in the absence of an agreement delimiting the marine boundary between the State of Kuwait and that state, the median line shall be considered the outer limit of the contiguous zone of the state of Kuwait.

\* The Article 5 amended by the decree No (141 /2015) issued on 12 May 2015





**Article 6**

The State of Kuwait shall have an exclusive economic zone, beyond and adjacent to its territorial sea, extending to the marine boundaries with opposite and adjacent states, wherein, it shall exercise the same rights and powers exercised in its territorial sea, relative to natural resources and wealth, in addition to the rights and powers established by Article 56 of the aforementioned United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

In the absence of an agreement to delimit the marine boundary with the any opposite or adjacent state, the median line shall be the outer limit of the exclusive economic zone of the State of Kuwait.

**Article 7**

The continental shelf of the State of Kuwait shall be defined as set out in article 76 of the abovementioned United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, wherein, the State of Kuwait shall exercise the rights and powers it exercises in its territorial sea, relating to natural resources and wealth of the seabed and subsoil thereof, as well as the other rights contained in Article 77, of the said convention.

In the absence of an agreement with any opposite or adjacent state, concerning the delimitation of the marine boundaries, the median line shall be the outer limit of the continental shelf of the state of Kuwait.

**Article 8**

This Decree supersedes the aforementioned Decree of 17 December 1967, as well as any other provisions that are contrary to the provisions of this Decree.

**Article 9**

The ministers shall, each within his purview, implement this Decree. This Decree shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the official Gazette.

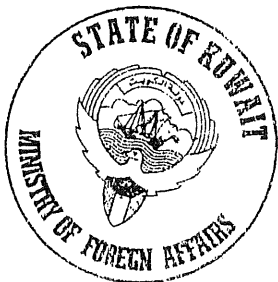
Deputy Amir of the state of Kuwait  
Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah

Prime Minister  
Jaber Mubark Al-Hamad Al-Sabah

First Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah

Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Interior  
Mohammad Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah

Deputy Prime Minister & Acting Minister of Foreign Defense  
Mohammad Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah



48°0'E

49°0'E

50°0'E

51°0'E

30°0'N

30°0'N

29°0'N

29°0'N

48°0'E

49°0'E

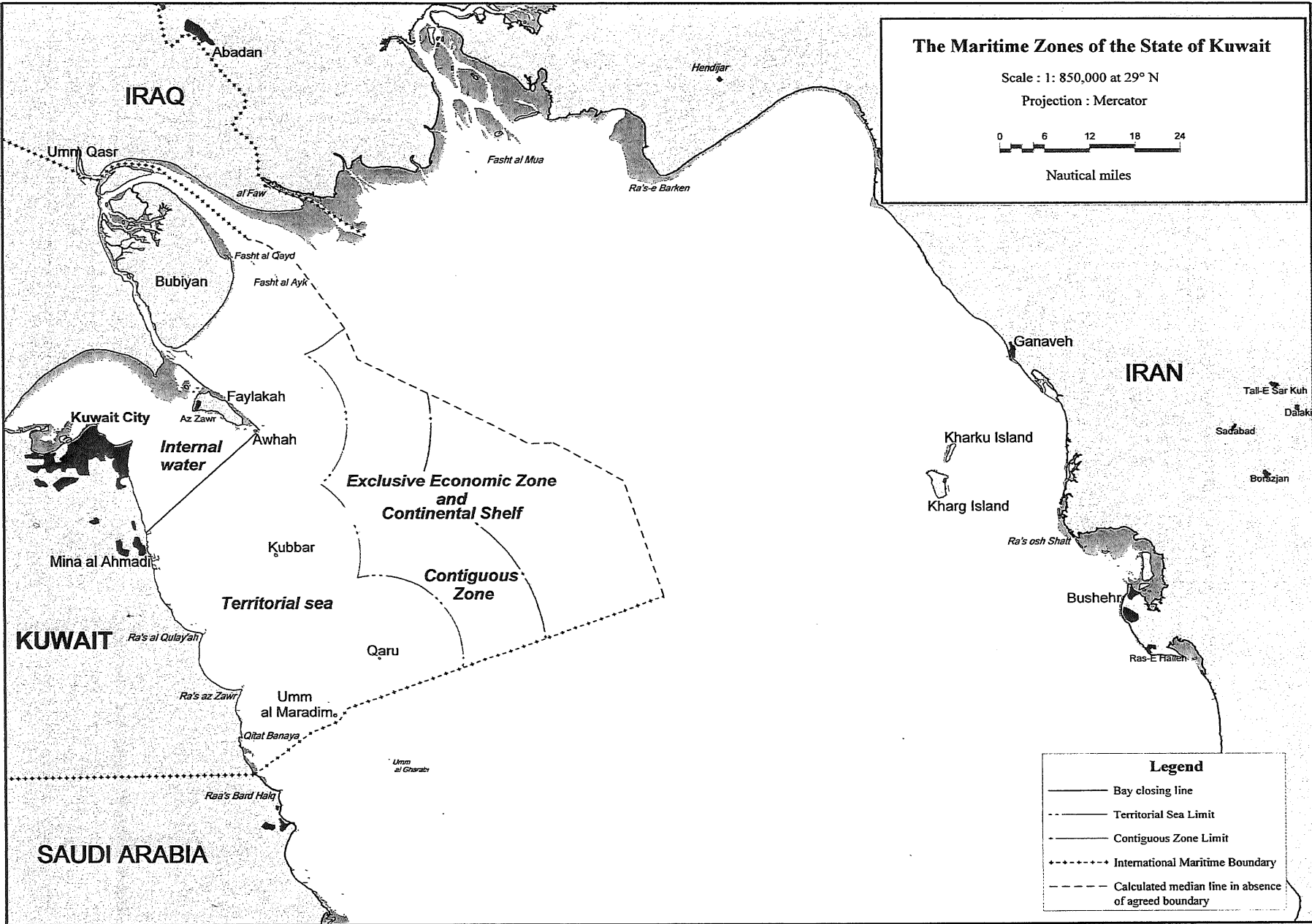
50°0'E

51°0'E

**The Maritime Zones of the State of Kuwait**

Scale : 1: 850,000 at 29° N  
 Projection : Mercator

Nautical miles



**Legend**

- Bay closing line
- - - Territorial Sea Limit
- - - Contiguous Zone Limit
- · · · · International Maritime Boundary
- - - Calculated median line in absence of agreed boundary