

Myanmar Territorial Sea and Maritime Zones Law
(The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Law No.14, 2017)
The 9th Waning of Waso, 1379 M.E.
(17 July, 2017)

The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw hereby enacts this Law.

Chapter I
Title and Definitions

1. This Law shall be called **the Myanmar Territorial Sea and Maritime Zones Law**.
2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder:
 - (a) **State** means the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - (b) **Government** means the Union Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar;
 - (c) **The Relevant Ministry** means a Union Ministry assigned by the Union Government;
 - (d) **Maritime Zones** means maritime zones of the State including territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf;
 - (e) **Baselines** means the baselines specified in the Annexe (A) to this Law;
 - (f) **Internal waters** means waters on the landward side of the baseline of the territorial sea;
 - (g) **Foreigner** means a person who is not a citizen, an associate citizen or a naturalized citizen;
 - (h) **Vessel** means any motorized or non-motorized vessel that can travel on-water or underwater;
 - (i) **Foreign ship** means a ship which is registered in a foreign country, not in Myanmar and a ship owned by a foreigner which is not registered in any country;

- (j) **Natural resources** means living and non-living resources of the seabed, and its subsoil and the waters superjacent to the seabed and the water level. In this expression, natural resources promulgated in the gazette by the government, from time to time, are also included.
- (k) **Nautical mile** means international nautical mile.

Chapter II

Objectives

- 3. The objectives of this Law are as follows:
 - (a) to have security, rule of law and tranquility for the interests of the State in the territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf;
 - (b) to protect and conserve, and excavate natural resources systematically for long term in the territorial sea and maritime zones of the State and to do marine scientific researches;
 - (c) to protect and conserve from the pollutions on the sea, airspace and impact on marine environment through the territorial sea and maritime zones of the State.

Chapter III

Territorial Sea

- 4. The territorial sea of the State extends seawards to a distance of twelve nautical miles from the baselines.
- 5. The sovereignty of the State extends to the territorial sea, to its seabed, subsoil and to the airspace over the territorial sea.
- 6.
 - (a) Unless it is contrary to the provisions of this Law, vessels of all states other than foreign warships shall enjoy the right of innocent passage through the territorial sea. This passage shall be deemed to be innocent passage so long as it is not prejudicial to the peace, rule of law and tranquility or security of the State;
 - (b) A foreign warship may pass innocent passage through the territorial sea only if prior permission of the government is obtained;

- (c) The relevant government department and government organization has the right to direct foreign warship entering without getting prior permission of the government to leave immediately from the area where they arrive through the territorial sea.

7. During the passage through the territorial sea:

- (a) any foreign ship shall observe the existing laws of the State;
- (b) any foreign ship shall traverse the territorial sea by the shortest way without stopping or anchoring except by reason of natural disaster or force majeure;
- (c) a foreign fishing vessel shall keep systematically its fishing gear and equipment in a secured position for sea;
- (d) foreign research vessel shall do research only if prior permission of the Government is obtained;
- (e) foreign submarines and other underwater vehicles shall navigate on the surface of the sea and show their flag.

8. If a foreign ship engages in any of the following activities while innocent passage through the territorial sea, it shall be considered to be prejudicial to the peace, rule of law and stability or security of the State:

- (a) any threat, use of force or any other act against the sovereignty, territory integrity or political independence of the State or in any other manner in violation of the principles of international law embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;
- (b) any exercise or practice or use with weapons of any kind;
- (c) collecting information to the prejudice of the security or defence of the State;
- (d) act of propaganda that affects the security or defence of the State;
- (e) the launching, landing or taking on board of any aircraft;
- (f) the launching, landing or taking on board of any military device;

- (g) the loading and unloading of any commodity, currency, person or animal which are not permitted under the existing customs, fiscal, immigration or sanitary laws;
- (h) act to pollute and affect the sea, airspace and impact on marine environment;
- (i) catching aquatic animals including fishes, by any way, fishing, supporting and preparing for these businesses, and making to damage the natural resources;
- (j) the carrying out of research or survey activities;
- (k) any act aimed at interfering with any systems of communication, any other facilities or installations or structures of the State;
- (l) any other activity not having a direct bearing on innocent passage.

9. The Foreign ship shall observe the relevant existing laws and international rules for protection of collision at the sea in the innocent passage through the territorial sea.

10. (a) Oil tankers, nuclear-powered ships and the ships carrying other inherently dangerous or noxious substances by nuclear or by nature shall pass sea lanes , controlled and designated by the State.
- (b) The relevant ship shall, when passing under sub-section (a), carry necessary documents and observe precautionary measures established for such ships by international agreements.

11. The relevant ministry shall take into account the following facts in the designation of sea lanes and the prescription of traffic separation schemes on charts with the approval of government and shall promulgate it to know the public:

- (a) the recommendations of the competent international organization for this purpose;
- (b) any channels customarily used for international navigation;
- (c) the special characteristics of particular ships and channels;
- (d) the density of traffic.

12. The Government:

- (a) may take the necessary steps in its territorial sea to prevent passage which is not innocent;
- (b) may take the necessary steps to prevent any breach of conditions relating to ships proceeding to internal waters or a call at a port facility outside internal waters;
- (c) may suspend temporarily the innocent passage of foreign ships in the territorial sea if such suspension is necessary for the protection of the security of the State. Such suspension shall take effect after having been duly published.

13. No charge shall be levied upon foreign ships by reason only of their passage through the territorial sea. However, the State may levy on specific services rendered to the ship.

14. The relevant government departments and government organizations may, in accordance with the law, stop, investigate, search, arrest and prosecute the vessel relating to the following offences and matters which occur on board foreign ships passing through the territorial sea:

- (a) being the consequences of the crime which extends to the State;
- (b) being the crime which disturbs the peace, the rule of law, and tranquility of the State;
- (c) being the request for assistance of the State by the master of the ship or by a diplomatic agent or consular officer of the flag State;
- (d) being necessary measures for the suppression of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances;
- (e) being necessary measures for the suppression of the act of violence, trafficking in persons, smuggling in persons or arms trafficking or piracy directly or indirectly.

15. The relevant government departments and government organizations may, after the foreign ships violates any existing laws in the internal waters of the State,

take any steps according to the provisions of section 14 while passing through the territorial sea after leaving internal waters.

16. The State may exercise civil jurisdiction in the following matters relating to the innocent passage of foreign ship through the territorial sea:

- (a) failure of obligations or liabilities assumed or incurred by the foreign ship in the course or for the purpose of its voyage through the internal waters and territorial sea of the State;
- (b) imposition of any liability by a foreign ship for the purpose of civil proceedings in the internal waters.

Chapter IV Contiguous Zone

17. The contiguous zone of the State is an area beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea and extends to a distance of 24 nautical miles from the baselines.

18. In the contiguous zone, the State has the right to exercise necessary control relating to the following matters:

- (a) to safeguard the security of the State; and
- (b) to prevent infringement of the customs, fiscal, immigration or sanitary laws of the State and to punish the persons who violate them in accordance with the laws.

Chapter V Exclusive Economic Zone

19. The exclusive economic zone of the State is an area beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea. Such exclusive economic zone extends to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baselines.

20. The State has the following rights and jurisdiction to exercise within exclusive economic zone:

- (a) sovereign rights and authority for exploring, exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources on the seabed, the seabed and its subsoil, the waters superjacent to the seabed and the water level in the

exclusive economic zone, and other activities for the economic exploration, exploitation, and aquaculture including the production of energy from the water, currents and winds;

- (b) exclusive rights and jurisdiction for the establishment, maintenance and use of artificial islands, off-shore terminals, installations and structures, and jurisdiction which can specify the security area for such places;
- (c) exclusive jurisdiction to authorize, regulate and control marine scientific research;
- (d) rights and jurisdiction to protect and conserve the marine environment sustainability and to prevent and control marine pollution;
- (e) other rights provided for in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982.

21. In the exclusive economic zone, all States may enjoy the right of freedom of navigation, over flight within the air space over the zone and laying of submarine cable, pipelines and its related facilities in accordance with the law. In doing so, it shall not affect the rights and jurisdiction of the State.

22. The relevant government departments and government organizations may, in accordance with the existing laws, search, inquiry, arrest and prosecute any ship for exploring, exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources in the exclusive economic zone.

Chapter VI

Continental Shelf

23. The continental shelf of the State comprises the seabed and subsoil of the submarine areas that extends beyond the territorial sea throughout the natural prolongation of its land territory to the outer edge of the continental margin.

24. The natural resources of the continental shelf consist of:

- (a) the mineral and living and non-living resources. Living and non-living resources include living organisms belonging to sedentary species and organisms which, at the harvestable stage, either are

immobile on or under the seabed or are unable to move except in constant physical contact with the seabed or the subsoil;

- (b) natural resources notified by the government from time to time.

25. The State has the right to exercise the following rights and jurisdiction in the continental shelf:

- (a) exploration, exploitation, conservation and management of the natural resources;
- (b) establishment, maintenance and use of artificial islands, off-shore terminals, installations and structures;
- (c) jurisdiction to authorize, regulate and control marine scientific research.
- (d) conservation and protection of marine environment, and reduction, prevention and control of marine pollution due to submarine cables, pipelines and its related facilities;
- (e) underground tunnelling;
- (f) prescribing other rights provided from time to time by the international law.

Chapter VII

The Right of Hot Pursuit

26. The State may, in accordance with the stipulations, exercise the right of hot pursuit of a foreign ship which violates or is believed that it has violated this Law and other existing laws. Such right of hot pursuit ceases if a foreign ship pursued enters its territorial sea or the territorial sea of a third State.

Chapter VIII

Demarcation of sea boundary with neighbouring countries

27. The sea boundary line of Myanmar-Bangladesh is demarcated by the judgment of the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea issued on 14 March, 2012. The coordinates of sea boundary line of Myanmar-Bangladesh is as mentioned in Annexe (B) and the nautical chart of boundary line is as mentioned in Annexe (C).

28. The sea boundary line of Myanmar-India is demarcated by the bilateral agreement concluded in 1986. The coordinates of sea boundary line of Myanmar-India is as mentioned in Annexe (B) and the nautical chart of boundary line is as mentioned in Annexe (C).

29. The sea boundary line of Myanmar - Thailand is demarcated by the bilateral agreement concluded in 1980. The coordinates of sea boundary line of Myanmar-Thailand is as mentioned in Annexe (B) and the nautical chart of boundary line is as mentioned in Annexe (C).

Chapter IX

Prohibitions

30. No one shall move any objects, including ancient objects and historic objects at the seabed of the contiguous zone without the prior permission of the Government.

31. No one shall act any of the followings in the exclusive economic zone without the prior permission of the Government:

- (a) exploration;
- (b) exploitation of natural resources;
- (c) doing research;
- (d) excavating or drilling for any purpose;
- (e) establishing, maintaining or using artificial island, off-shore terminal, installations and structures.

32. No one shall act any of the followings in the continental shelf without the prior permission of the Government:

- (a) exploration;
- (b) exploitation of natural resources;
- (c) doing research;
- (d) searching, excavating or drilling for any purpose;
- (e) establishing, maintaining or using artificial island, off-shore terminal, installations and structures;

- (f) extending or maintaining submarine cables and pipelines.

Chapter X

Offences and Penalties

33. Whoever violates any prohibitions contained in sections 30, 31 or 32 or any rules issued under this Law shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment not exceeding seven years or with a fine or with both. If an offender is a foreigner or a person who relates to the interests of a foreign country, he shall pay a fine determined by the court with foreign currency in accordance with prescribed currency exchange rate.

34. Whoever abets in violation of any prohibitions of sections 30, 31 or 32 or any rules issued under this law shall, on conviction, be punished with a fine as prescribed in original offence. If an offender is a foreigner or a person who relates to the interests of foreign country, he shall pay a fine determined by the court with foreign currency in accordance with prescribed currency exchange rate.

35. Whoever attempts to violate any prohibitions of sections 30, 31 or 32 or any rules issued under this Law shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment not exceeding three years or with a fine or with both. If an offender is a foreigner or a person who relates to the interests of a foreign country, he shall pay a fine determined by the court with foreign currency in accordance with prescribed foreign currency exchange rate.

36. Whoever violates or attempts or abets to violate any prohibitions of sections 7, 8 or 10 shall have action taken under relevant existing laws.

37. The relevant court may confiscate any ship other than warships out of ships which are involved in any offence mentioned in sections 33, 34 and 35. Equipment installed on any part of the ship and instruments on board of that ship may be confiscated.

Chapter XI
Miscellaneous

38. The State may take action against any offenders for the conservation and protection of marine environment.
39. An action taken against any offender under this Law shall not preclude the right to take action under any other existing laws.
40. The actions taken against any offender under section 36 shall not affect the matters relating to civil jurisdiction contained in section 16.
41. There shall be no prosecution under this Law without the prior sanction of the Government.
42. In implementing the provisions of this Law:
- (a) the relevant ministry may issue rules, regulations and bye-laws with the approval of the Union Government;
 - (b) the relevant ministry may issue notifications, orders, directives and procedures.
43. The Territorial Sea and Maritime Zone Law (The PyithuHluttaw Law No.3, 1977) is hereby repealed by this Law.

I hereby sign under the Constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Sd/ HtinKyaw
President
The Republic of the Union of Myanmar

1. For the purposes of this Law, in marking the territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf of the state, measurement is made from straight baseline which have been drawn by connecting with the following fixed points by reason of the geographical conditions prevailing on the coasts of the State or of the economic requirements of the coastal regions:

Schedule

2. Rakhine Coast

(a)	Southern Point of Mayu Island	.....	Lat	20°	11'	49"N
			Long	92°	32'	19"E
(b)	Boronga Point	.....	Lat	19°	48'	30"N
			Long	93°	01'	42"E
(c)	South Terrible Rock	.....	Lat	19°	22'	56"N
			Long	93°	16'	20"E
(d)	Western Point of Henry Rocks	.....	Lat	18°	51'	48"N
			Long	93°	26'	15"E
(e)	Nerbudda Island	.....	Lat	18°	20'	50"N
			Long	93°	56'	25"E
(f)	Church Rocks	.....	Lat	17°	27'	39"N
			Long	94°	19'	46"E
(g)	North West Group Of Hnget-taung Island	.....	Lat	16°	55'	28"N
			Long	94°	12'	45"E
(h)	Goyangyi Island	.....	Lat	16°	31'	20"N
			Long	94°	14'	21"E
(i)	South Rock	.....	Lat	16°	18'	55"N
			Long	94°	11'	20"E
(j)	Black Rock	.....	Lat	16°	11'	50"N
			Long	94°	10'	50"E
(k)	Pathein Light House	.....	Lat	15°	42'	13"N
			Long	94°	12'	06"E

3. Gulf of Martaban

- (a) Pathein Light House Lat 15° 42' 13"N
Long 94° 12' 06"E
- (b) Western Point of Lat 14° 24' 15"N
Heinze 'Bok Island Long 97° 46' 02"E

4. Tenasserim Coast

- (a) Western Point of Lat 14° 24' 15"N
Heinze 'Bok Long 97° 46' 02"E
- (b) North Island of Lat 14° 09' 00"N
Maungmagan Islands Long 97° 46' 54"E
- (c) WestCanister Island Lat 12° 41' 30"N
Long 97° 43' 40"E
- (d) NorthenPoint of Lat 12° 30' 30"N
Saurim Island Long 97° 47' 42"E
- (e) Western Point of Lat 12° 03' 03"N
Prinsep Island Long 97° 38' 00"E
- (f) Western Point of Lat 11° 47' 15"N
West Sular Island Long 97° 26' 15"E
- (g) North Western Point of Lat 10° 38' 15"N
Myauk Taw Win Island Long 97° 41' 45"E
- (h) Western Point ofTaung Taw Lat 10° 28' 12"N
Win Island Long 97° 40' 45"E
- (i) Auk Kyun Ni Island Lat 09° 51' 24"N
Long 97° 52' 18"E
- (j) Ta Bin Taing Island Lat 09° 40' 45"N
Long 97° 54' 30"E
- (k) WesternPoint of TaungSune Lat 09° 35' 54"N
Island Long 97° 58' 12"E

5. Preparis Island Group (Preparis Island Group)

- (a) North Western Point Lat 14° 56' 07"N

	of Cow and Calf Island		Long	93°	38'	46"E
(b)	Western Point of Ohn Pin Island	.....	Lat	14°	52'	15"N Long 93°
					34'	08"E
(c)	North Western Point of Thee Phyu Island	.....	Lat	14°	51'	40"N Long 93°
					34'	12"E
(d)	North Western Point of Sin Island	.....	Lat	14°	50'	56"N Long 93°
					34'	10"E
(e)	North Western Point of Lu Gaung Island	.....	Lat	14°	47'	24"N Long 93°
					32'	59"E
(f)	Southern Point of Lu Gaung Island	.....	Lat	14°	47'	08"N Long 93°
					33'	00"E
(g)	Southern Point of Preparis Island	.....	Lat	14°	50'	17"N Long 93°
					36'	40"E
(h)	North Eastern Point of Preparis Island	.....	Lat	14°	53'	54"N Long 93°
					38'	35"E
(i)	Eastern Point of Cow & Calf Island	.....	Lat	14°	55'	52"N Long 93°
					39'	06"E

6. Co Co Island Group

(a)	North Eastern Point of Mingala Island	.....	Lat	14°	11'	33"N Long 93°
					22'	20"E
(b)	Western Point of Slipper Island	.....	Lat	14°	11'	28"N Long 93°
					21'	17"E
(c)	North Western Point of Little Co Co Island	.....	Lat	14°	00'	55"N Long 93°
					13'	09"E
(d)	Southern Point of Little Co Co Island	.....	Lat	13°	58'	18"N Long 93°
					13'	22"E
(e)	Southern Point of Jerry Island	.....	Lat	14°	02'	54"N Long 93°
					21'	52"E
(f)	North Eastern Point of Great Co Co Island	.....	Lat	14°	08'	48"N Long 93°
					22'	41"E

Note: The coordinates of base points in Rakhine coast, gulf of Martaban, Tenasserim coast is stipulated by British nautical chart No (824) and (216-A) published in 1959, British nautical chart No. (3771) published in 1960, British nautical chart No (821) and (3772) published in 1964 and British nautical chart No (216) published in 1975. The coordinates of Preparis Island and Co Co Island are measured by WGS-84 Datum.

Maritime boundary of Myanmar-Bangladesh

1. The maritime boundaries issued by the judgment of the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea on 14 March, 2012 on the dispute concerning delimitation of the maritime boundary between Myanmar and Bangladesh are straight lines drawn by connecting the following points. In drawing point 8 and point 9, it is as a circle of 12 nautical miles from Saint Martin Island.

Schedule

(a)	Point (1)	.....	Lat	20'	42'	15.8''N
			Long	92'	22'	07.2''E
(b)	Point (2)	.....	Lat	20'	40'	45.0''N
			Long	92'	20'	29.0''E
(c)	Point (3)	.....	Lat	20'	39'	51.0''N
			Long	92'	21'	11.5''E
(d)	Point (4)	.....	Lat	20'	37'	13.5''N
			Long	92'	23'	42.3''E
(e)	Point (5)	.....	Lat	20'	35'	26.7''N
			Long	92'	24'	58.5''E
(f)	Point (6)	.....	Lat	20'	33'	17.8''N
			Long	92'	25'	46.0''E
(g)	Point (7)	.....	Lat	20'	26'	11.3''N
			Long	92'	24'	52.4''E
(h)	Point (8)	.....	Lat	20'	22'	46.1''N
			Long	92'	24'	09.1''E
(i)	Point (9)	.....	Lat	20'	26'	39.2''N
			Long	92'	9'	50.7''E
(j)	Point (10)	.....	Lat	20'	13'	06.3''N
			Long	92'	00'	07.6''E
(k)	Point (11)	.....	Lat	20'	03'	32.0''N
			Long	91'	50'	31.8''E

Note: It is drawn to the sea as 215 degree by starting from point 11 and it is to the meeting point of maritime boundary of Bangladesh and India. The coordinates of points are measured by WGS-84 Datum. The maritime boundary is demarcated to

200 nautical miles from the baseline to the sea. However, the contiguous places of maritime boundary of Bangladesh-Myanmar is to the such boundary line.

Myanmar-India maritime boundary

1. Myanmar-India maritime boundary signed bilaterally on 23December, 1986 is straight line connected with the following (16) main points.

Schedule

(a)	Main point (1)	.....	Lat	09'	38'	00"N
			Long	95'	35'	25"E
(b)	Main point (2)	.....	Lat	09'	53'	14"N
			Long	95'	28'	00"E
(c)	Main point (3)	.....	Lat	10'	18'	42"N
			Long	95'	16'	02"E
(d)	Main point (4)	.....	Lat	10'	28'	00"N
			Long	95'	15'	58"E
(e)	Main point (5)	.....	Lat	10'	44'	53"N
			Long	95'	22'	00"E
(f)	Main point (6)	.....	Lat	11'	43'	17"N
			Long	95'	26'	00"E
(g)	Main point (7)	.....	Lat	12'	19'	43"N
			Long	95'	30'	00"E
(h)	Main point (8)	.....	Lat	12'	54'	07"N
			Long	95'	41'	00"E
(i)	Main point (9)	.....	Lat	13'	48'	00"N
			Long	95'	02'	00"E
(j)	Main point (10)	.....	Lat	13'	48'	00"N
			Long	93'	50'	00"E
(k)	Main point (11)	.....	Lat	13'	34'	18"N
			Long	93'	40'	59"E
(l)	Main point (12)	.....	Lat	13'	49'	11"N
			Long	93'	08'	05"E

(m)	Main point (13)	.....	Lat	13'	57'	29"N
			Long	92'	54'	50"E
(n)	Main point (14)	.....	Lat	14'	00'	59"N
			Long	92'	50'	02"E
(o)	Main point (15)	.....	Lat	14'	17'	42"N
			Long	92'	24'	17"E
(p)	Main point (16)	.....	Lat	15'	42'	50"N
			Long	90'	14'	01"E

Note: The coordinates are those from the India nautical chart No (31) published in 1976 and India nautical chart (41) published in 1979, signed bilaterally.

Myanmar-Thailand maritime boundary

Myanmar-Thailand maritime boundary signed bilaterally on 25 July, 1980 is straight line connected with the following (9) main points.

Schedule

(a)	Main point (1)	.....	Lat	09'	32'	15"N
			Long	97'	56'	20"E
(b)	Main point (2)	.....	Lat	09'	34'	29"N
			Long	97'	52'	10"E
(c)	Main point (3)	.....	Lat	09'	34'	54"N
			Long	97'	51'	12"E
(d)	Main point (4)	.....	Lat	09'	35'	39"N
			Long	97'	45'	29"E
(e)	Main point (5)	.....	Lat	09'	36'	02"N
			Long	97'	43'	29"E
(f)	Main point (6)	.....	Lat	09'	37'	24"N
			Long	97'	37'	36"E
(g)	Main point (7)	.....	Lat	09'	40'	35"N
			Long	97'	26'	36"E
(h)	Main point (8)	.....	Lat	09'	45'	30"N
			Long	96'	29'	35"E

Maritime Boundary Lines of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and her neighbouring countries

