

Netherlands Territorial Sea (Demarcation) Act
of 9 January 1985

Section 1

1. The territorial sea of the Netherlands shall extend to a line, each point on which lies twelve international nautical miles, or twenty-two kilometres two hundred and twenty-four metres, seawards of the nearest point on the low-water line along the coast, with the proviso that, where a naturally formed elevation of the seabed which is covered at high tide but dry at low tide lies within this distance from the low-water line, the territorial sea shall be measured from the closest point on the low-water line of such an elevation.
2. The low-water line shall be defined as the line indicating the depth of 0 metres on the large-scale Dutch sea charts issued upon the instructions of the Minister of Defence.

Section 2

1. The demarcation line between the inland waters and the territorial sea of the Netherlands shall be formed by the low-water line along the coast together with the base lines referred to in subsections 2 and 4, insofar as the latter lie seawards thereof.
2. Base lines shall be drawn through the arcs of the great circles which represent the shortest routes between the following points:
 - a. In the mouth of the Western Scheldt:

Point A, the intersection of the land boundary between the Netherlands and Belgium with the low-water line, deemed for the purposes of the present Act to lie at 51°22'25.0" north latitude and 3°21'52.5" east longitude.

Point B, the Molenhoofd light on the coast of Walcheren, at 51°31'38.1" north latitude and 3°26'07.9" east longitude.
 - b. Between Den Helder and Texel:

Point C, the Kijkduin lighthouse at Den Helder, at 52°57'22.5" north latitude and 4°43'39.8" east longitude; from there to

Point D, on the island of Noorderhaaks, at 52°58'24.0" north latitude and 4°39'30.0" east longitude; from there to

Point E, the Loodsmansduin (direction table) on the island of Texel, at 53°01'21.2" north latitude and 4°43'45.6" east longitude.
 - c. Between Texel and Vlieland:

Point F, the Eierland lighthouse on the island of Texel at 53°10'58.4" north latitude and 4°51'23.7" east longitude.

Point G, the refuge on the island of Vlieland at 53°13'27.6" north latitude and 4°53'12.3" east longitude.

d. Between Vlieland and Terschelling:

Point H, the Vuurduin lighthouse on the island of Vlieland, at 53°17'47.7" north latitude and 5°03'34.3" east longitude.

Point J, the Brandaris lighthouse on the island of Terschelling, at 53°21'39.8" north latitude and 5°12'55.9" east longitude.

e. Between Terschelling and Ameland:

Point K, the Noordkaap beacon on the island of Terschelling, at 53°26'40.6" north latitude and 5°32'47.1" east longitude.

Point L, the Ameland lighthouse, at 53°26'59.9" north latitude and 5°37'37.2" east longitude.

f. Between Ameland and Schiermonnikoog:

Point M, the cape at the east point of Ameland, at 53°27'50.0" north latitude and 5°55'49.4" east longitude.

Point N, the Schiermonnikoog lighthouse, at 53°29'15.3" north latitude and 6°08'52.1" east longitude.

g. Between Schiermonnikoog and Rottumeroog:

Point O, the cape at the southeast point of Schiermonnikoog, at 53°29'50.5" north latitude and 6°17'56.1" east longitude; from there to

Point P, the Boschplaat beacon, at 53°31'48.9" north latitude and 6°27'42.4" east longitude; from there to Point Q, the Great Cape on Rottumeroog, at 53°32'39.1" north latitude and 6°34'39.0" east longitude.

3. The location of points A to Q referred to in subsection 2 is expressed in longitude and latitude using European coordinates (1st Adjustment, 1950).

4. In the mouth of the River Maas and in the harbour mouths at Scheveningen and IJmuiden, the base line shall be taken to be a straight line between the lights on the ends of the jetties.

Section 3

1. The lateral demarcation of the territorial sea shall be determined by agreement with the States whose territorial sea borders on that of the Netherlands.

2. For the purposes of the application of Netherlands legislation, the border between inland waters and the territorial sea in the mouth of the Ems shall be deemed to be formed by a straight line between the Great Cape on Rottumeroog, at 53°32'39.1" north latitude and 6°34'39.0" east longitude, and the large lighthouse at Borkum, at 53°35'22.2" north latitude and 6°39'48.3" east longitude, insofar as the said line remains within Netherlands territory.

Section 4

In section 38, subsection 4, of the Nuisance Act (Bulletin of Acts, Orders and Decrees 1981, 410), the final full-stop shall be replaced by a semi-colon, after which the following words shall be inserted:

"c. establishments where activities are performed for which a licence is required pursuant to section 2 of the Continental Shelf Mining Act (Bulletin of AOD 1965, 428).".

Section 5

In section 1, subsection 1, of the Factories Act 1919 (Bulletin of AOD 624), the final full-stop shall be replaced by a semi-colon, after which the following words shall be inserted:

"performed by persons as referred to in section 26, subsection 1b of the Continental Shelf Mining Act (Bulletin of AOD 1965, 428).".

Section 6

In section 38, subsection 1, of the Industrial Safety Act 1934 (Bulletin of AOD 352), the final full-stop shall be replaced by a semi-colon, after which the following words shall be inserted:

"f. work performed by persons as referred to in section 26, subsection 1b, of the Continental Shelf Mining Act (Bulletin of AOD 1965, 428).".

Section 7

In section 2, subsection 6, of the Working Conditions Act (Bulletin of AOD 1980, 664), subdivision b shall be relettered c and the following words shall be inserted after subdivision a:

"b. performed by persons as referred to in section 26, subsection 1b, of the Continental Shelf Mining Act (Bulletin of AOD 1965, 428);".

Section 8

For one year after the entry into force of the present Act, the Earth Removal Act (Bulletin of AOD 1965, 509) shall not apply to the area by which the territorial sea is extended by virtue of the present Act.

Section 9

1. The present Act shall enter into force on the first day of the third month after the date of issue of the Bulletin of Acts, Orders and Decrees in which it is published.
2. It may be cited as the Netherlands Territorial Sea (Demarcation) Act.

We order and command that this Act shall be published in the Bulletin of Acts, Orders and Decrees (Staatsblad) and that all ministerial departments, authorities, bodies and officials whom it may concern shall diligently implement it.

[Original: English]