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*Translated from French*

Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations

ShG/SECPOL

No. 2019-0064423

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat, Office of Legal Affairs, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, and has the honour to refer to note verbale No. 10/18/21 of 26 October 2018 from the Permanent Mission of New Zealand regarding the deposit of the geographical coordinates of the outer limits of its continental shelf, in accordance with the recommendations of 22 August 2008 of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

France considers that the geographical coordinates deposited by New Zealand overlap with the continental shelf claimed by France in respect of New Caledonia, as set out in its submission of 22 May 2007 deposited with the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

France takes note that New Zealand, in its note verbale No. 10/18/21 of 26 October 2018 addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, emphasizes that it established the outer limits of its continental shelf “without prejudice to the outcome of future continental shelf delimitation negotiations in the South Fiji Basin, with Fiji and the Kingdom of Tonga, and possibly France (in respect of New Caledonia) in the area of the Three Kings Ridge”.

United Nations Secretariat

Office of Legal Affairs, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

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The Permanent Mission confirms that France has no objection to the establishment by New Zealand of the outer limits of its continental shelf in that maritime area, in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf of 22 August 2008, insofar as the deposit of those coordinates is without prejudice to any subsequent delimitation of the respective continental shelves of France (in respect of New Caledonia) and New Zealand, pursuant to article 76, paragraph 10, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations expresses its thanks in advance to the United Nations Secretariat, Office of Legal Affairs, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, for acknowledging receipt of the present note verbale and for having it circulated to the members of the Commission. The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretariat the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 31 January 2019

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