

[Official Seal]

Republic of Colombia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

S-DM-19-003231

Bogotá, 11 February 2019

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the circular communication of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea with reference M.Z.N.141.2018.LOS (Maritime Zone Notification) of 18 December 2018.

In the said document, the Secretary-General informed that on 8 November 2018, pursuant to Article 16, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Republic of Nicaragua deposited the list of geographical coordinates of points concerning the baselines from which it measures the breadth of its maritime spaces in the Caribbean Sea, as contained in Decree No. 17-2018 of October 2018.

The basepoints and baselines contained in the aforementioned decree, contain a modification to those established in Decree No. 33-2013 of 19 August 2013, which at the time gave rise to objections from the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Costa Rica and the United States of America.

As it is well known, the Republic of Colombia is not a Party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Regardless, the Republic of Colombia communicates to the United Nations and its Member States that once again it objects to the straight baselines drawn by the Republic of Nicaragua in the Caribbean Sea because they are contrary to international law.

The Republic of Colombia does not recognize the validity of the straight baselines drawn by Nicaragua nor the legal consequences that said country seeks to obtain from them.

Your Excellency

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES

UN Secretary-General

New York

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As a result of the Nicaraguan baselines constituting a violation to international law, since 2016 the International Court of Justice is examining a counter-claim submitted by Colombia against Nicaragua in the context of the case concerning the *Alleged Violations of Sovereign Rights and Maritime Spaces in the Caribbean Sea (Nicaragua v. Colombia)*.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew the assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signature]
CARLOS HOLMES TRUJILLO
Minister of Foreign Affairs