

MONTENEGRO
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration

No: 09/16-167/35

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as The Depository of The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and has the honor to inform competent international authorities, in a quality of the State Party to this Convention, on activities of the Republic of Croatia that contravene to the letter and the spirit of UNCLOS and to other international agreements in force regulating the status of maritime territories under dispute.

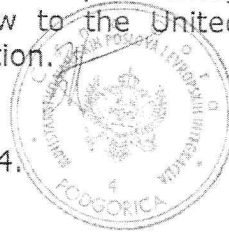
On April 2, 2014 Republic of Croatia issued graphic presentation and other documentation attached to contractual permissions offered to specific foreign concessionaries for exploration and exploitation of hydro-carbonates in blocks 27,28 and 29 in Adriatic Sea, which are in whole, or at least partly, located in the sea ridge disputed by Montenegro and which are, consequently, in yet non-delimited epi-continental and exclusive economic zone between two states, undertaking thus unilateral acts in contravention to the following international obligations:

1. Under high auspice of The United Nations the Government of The Republic of Croatia and The Federal Government of The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia signed December 10, 2002 the Protocol on interim regime along the southern border between two states, which in its Preamble's forth Paragraph reads: „Departing from principles of respect for reciprocal obligations, non-acceptability of unilateral acts and bona fide implementation of the Protocol,.. We remind competent international authorities that the above said Protocol should be under regime of obligatory implementation between Montenegro and Republic of Croatia, as the only bilateral agreement that regulates regime in the disputed territory.
2. UNCLOS in its Preamble's first Paragraph underlines that the States Parties to this Convention are „prompted by the desire to settle, in a spirit of mutual understanding and co-operation, all issues relating to the law of the sea and aware of the historic significance of this Convention as an important contribution to the maintenance of peace, justice and progress for all peoples of the world,.. Following the letter and the spirit of this Paragraph Montenegro has duty to inform competent international

authorities that The Republic of Croatia should not establish any valid concessionary contract on exploration and exploitation of hydro-carbonates with any company in the world in disputed territory before the definitive delimitation and demarcation of the joint state border with Montenegro, or before two states reach a mutually acceptable agreement, based on implementation of equitable and just instruments that have been already applied in resolving similar disputes.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations in New York the assurances of its highest consideration.

Podgorica, July 02, 2014.



THE UNITED NATIONS
Secretary-General of the United Nations

New York