



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**A JOINT PARTIAL SUBMISSION OF DATA AND INFORMATION ON THE
OUTER LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF THE REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA AND
THE REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR IN THE PANAMA BASIN PURSUANT TO PART VI OF
AND ANNEX II TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA**

PART I

Joint Partial Submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

through the Secretary-General of the United Nations

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1. INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

The Republic of Costa Rica (Costa Rica) and the Republic of Ecuador (Ecuador) are States Parties¹ to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea² (the Convention).

Costa Rica signed the Convention with a declaration on 10 December 1982 and deposited its instrument of ratification on 21 September 1992. Costa Rica also deposited its instruments of accession to the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention and the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks on 20 September 2001 and 18 June 2001, respectively.

Ecuador deposited its instrument of accession to the Convention with a declaration on 24 September 2012. Ecuador also deposited its instrument of participation and consent to be bound by the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention on 24 September 2012 and its instrument of accession to the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the Convention relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks on 7 December 2016.

Under paragraph 1 of article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (the Convention), the continental shelf under national jurisdiction is defined as:

1. The continental shelf of a coastal State comprises the sea-bed and subsoil of the submarine areas that extend beyond its territorial sea throughout the natural prolongation of its land territory to the outer edge of the continental margin, or to a distance of 200

¹ See: https://www.un.org/Depts/los/reference_files/UNCLOS%20Status%20table_ENG.pdf

² See: https://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/texts/unclos/unclos_e.pdf

nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured where the outer edge of the continental margin does not extend up to that distance.

The continental margin, in turn, is defined under paragraph 3 of article 76 of the Convention as:

3. The continental margin comprises the submerged prolongation of the land mass of the coastal State, and consists of the sea-bed and subsoil of the shelf the slope and the rise. It does not include the deep ocean floor with its oceanic ridges or the subsoil thereof.

The outer limits of the continental shelf are prescribed under paragraph 2 of article 76 not to exceed the combination of rules referred to in paragraphs 4 to 6 of the same article:

2. The continental shelf of a coastal State shall not extend beyond the limits provided for in paragraphs 4 to 6.

The Convention also establishes a procedure for the determination of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles by the coastal State based on the recommendations made by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) in relation to a submission of information on the limits as described in paragraph 8 of article 76:

8. Information on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be submitted by the coastal State to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf set up under Annex II on the basis of equitable geographical representation. The Commission shall make recommendations to coastal States on matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf. The limits of the shelf established by a coastal State on the basis of these recommendations shall be final and binding.

The above procedure is further elaborated in article 4 of Annex II to the Convention with the addition of a temporal requirement and a request designed to inform the Commission:

Where a coastal State intends to establish, in accordance with article 76, the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, it shall submit particulars of such limits to the Commission along with supporting scientific and technical data as soon as possible but in any case within 10 years of the entry into force of this Convention for that State. The coastal State shall at the same time give the names of any Commission members who have provided it with scientific and technical advice.

The Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held from 14 to 18 May 2001, noted that it was only after the adoption of the Scientific and Technical Guidelines by the Commission on 13 May 1999 that States had before them the basic documents concerning submissions in accordance with paragraph 8 of article 76 of the Convention. Considering the problems encountered by States Parties, in particular developing countries, including small-island developing States, in complying with the time limit set out in article 4 of Annex II to the Convention; the Meeting of States Parties (SPLOS/72³) decided that:

(a) in the case of a State Party for which the Convention entered into force before 13 May 1999, it is understood that the ten-year time period referred to in article 4 of Annex II to the Convention shall be taken to have commenced on 13 May 1999; and that

(b) the general issue of the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of Annex II to the Convention is kept under review.

³ See: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N01/387/64/PDF/N0138764.pdf>

The Eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held from 13 to 30 June 2008, adopted a decision regarding the workload of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of Annex II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a) (SPLOS/183⁴). Paragraph 1 of the decision reads:

1. *Decides that:*

- (a) It is understood that the time period referred to in article 4 of annex II to the Convention and the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a), may be satisfied by submitting to the Secretary-General preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of making a submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf;*

- (b) Pending the receipt of the submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission, preliminary information submitted in accordance with subparagraph (a) above shall not be considered by the Commission;*

- (c) Preliminary information submitted by a coastal State in accordance with subparagraph (a) is without prejudice to the submission in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure*

⁴ See: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/398/76/PDF/N0839876.pdf>

and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission, and the consideration of the submission by the Commission;

(d) The Secretary-General shall inform the Commission and notify member States of the receipt of preliminary information in accordance with subparagraph (a), and make such information publicly available, including on the website of the Commission;

In accordance with the decision adopted by the Eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, Costa Rica fulfilled its obligation on 11 May 2009 to submit Preliminary Information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the Pacific Ocean and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of making a submission, in accordance with the requirements of article 76 of the Convention and with the Rules of Procedure of 17 April 2008 (CLCS/40/Rev.1⁵) and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf of 11 May 2009 (CLCS/11). This Preliminary Information was followed by a communication dated 12 April 2012. Costa Rica reserves the right to send further communications to the Secretary-General relating to its Preliminary Information in light of its intention to make another Partial Submission in the northern part of the Cocos Ridge at a later date.

Ecuador makes this Joint Partial Submission with Costa Rica within the period of 10 years established in the provisions contained in article 4 of Annex II to the Convention, which expires for it on 24 October 2022. In accordance with the provisions contained in paragraph 2 of article 308, this deadline is fixed by the fact that the Convention entered into force for it on the thirtieth day following the deposit of its instrument of accession on 24 September 2012. Ecuador is yet to

⁵ See: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N08/309/23/PDF/N0830923.pdf>

determine the precise date when any other Partial Submissions relating to the extension of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the northern part of the Cocos Ridge, the southern part of the Carnegie Ridge, and the Colón Ridge may be completed before the expiry of this 10-year deadline for it. Ecuador reserves the right to submit Preliminary Information to the Secretary-General in the event that, due to several factors, it considers necessary to make other Partial Submissions in one or several of these regions beyond the deadline established for it on 24 October 2022.

Costa Rica and Ecuador have identified a region in the Panama Basin over which they can extend their national jurisdictions over the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured. This region is located beyond the outer limits of the exclusive economic zones of Colombia from Malpelo Island, Costa Rica from Cocos Island, and of Ecuador from its insular territory in the Galapagos Islands and its continental territory at a distance of 200 nautical miles. Figure 1.1 shows the geographical configuration of this region.

Costa Rica and Ecuador initiated consultations to promote bilateral cooperation for the preparation of a possible Joint Partial Submission in the Panama Basin in a meeting held as early as 3 February 2012. A Memorandum of Understanding in relation to marine scientific research was signed by both States on 1 March 2013, which could assist in the preparation of this Joint Partial Submission. A Binational Scientific and Technical Committee was formed and representatives from both countries held thirty meetings and joint activities between 2015 and 2020. The Committee recommended the preparation of a Joint Partial Submission in the Panama Basin throughout different stages of this process between 2015 and 2018. This recommendation was finally adopted and agreed to by the Governments of Costa Rica and Ecuador in an official exchange of Notes dated 30 September 2019 (Ecuador) and 5 November 2019 (Costa Rica).

The Convention recognizes that competence with respect to the delimitation of international maritime boundaries which may arise in connection with the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf rests with States according to paragraph 1 of article 83:

1. The delimitation of the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts shall be effected by agreement on the basis of international law, as referred to in Article 38 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, in order to achieve an equitable solution.

The Convention also recognises, in paragraph 4 of article 83, that in a maritime region where there is an agreement in force, the delimitation of the continental shelf shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of that agreement:

4. Where there is an agreement in force between the States concerned, questions relating to the delimitation of the continental shelf shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of that agreement.

The overlapping maritime spaces under national jurisdiction leading up to a distance of 200 nautical miles determined from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured in the Panama Basin have been delimited by means of three international maritime boundary agreements between, in chronological order:

- Colombia and Ecuador in 1975:
 - Agreement concerning delimitation of marine and submarine areas and maritime co-operation between the Republics of Colombia and Ecuador, 23 August 1975

(entry into force: 22 December 1975; registration number: 14,582; registration date: 13 February 1976)⁶.

- Colombia and Costa Rica in 1984:
 - Treaty on the Delimitation of Marine and Submarine Areas and Maritime Cooperation between the Republic of Colombia and the Republic of Costa Rica, additional to that signed in San José on 17 March 1977 (entry into force: 20 February 2001; registration number: 37,322; registration date: 16 March 2001)⁷.

- Costa Rica and Ecuador in 2014:
 - Agreement on Maritime Delimitation between the Republic of Ecuador and the Republic of Costa Rica of 21 April 2014 (entry into force: 9 September 2016; registration number I-54729; registration date: 25 October 2017)⁸.

Figure 1.2 shows the international maritime boundaries established in the Agreements between Colombia and Ecuador in 1975, Colombia and Costa Rica in 1984, and Costa Rica and Ecuador in 2014. Any potential continental shelf spaces whose outer limits might overlap beyond 200 nautical miles in the Panama Basin, have not been subject to any delimitation agreements between Costa Rica and Ecuador to this date.

The Convention establishes that any outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles determined in accordance with paragraphs 4 to 6 of article 76 are without prejudice to the

⁶ See: <https://www.un.org/Depts/los/LEGISLATIONANDTREATIES/PDFFILES/TREATIES/COL-ECU1975MC.PDF>

⁷ See: <https://treaties.un.org/Pages/showDetails.aspx?objid=080000028008b971&clang=en>

⁸ See: <https://treaties.un.org/Pages/showDetails.aspx?objid=08000002804d7787>

delimitation of continental shelf boundaries between States according to paragraph 10 of the same article:

10. The provisions of this article are without prejudice to the question of delimitation of the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts.

The distinction between the delimitation of international continental shelf boundaries and the determination of the outer limits of the continental shelf is further reinforced by a savings provision contained in paragraph 4 of article 134 in the context of the application of Part XI of the Convention:

4. Nothing in this article affects the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf in accordance with Part VI or the validity of agreements relating to delimitation between States with opposite or adjacent coasts.

In addition, the Convention, in Article 9 of Annex II, also urges the Commission to take a cautious approach during the consideration of submissions and the preparation of its recommendations:

The actions of the Commission shall not prejudice matters relating to delimitation of boundaries between States with opposite or adjacent coasts.

This provision is appropriate particularly under certain circumstances because the basis for entitlement to the continental shelf by States cannot be other than pertinent to its delimitation.

Costa Rica and Ecuador take note of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Annex I of the Rules of Procedure of the CLCS:

3. A submission may be made by a coastal State for a portion of its continental shelf in order not to prejudice questions relating to the delimitation of boundaries between States in any other portion or portions of the continental shelf for which a submission may be made later, notwithstanding the provisions regarding the ten-year period established by article 4 of Annex II to the Convention.

4. Joint or separate submissions to the Commission requesting the Commission to make recommendations with respect to delineation may be made by two or more coastal States by agreement:

(a) Without regard to the delimitation of boundaries between those States; or

(b) With an indication, by means of geodetic coordinates, of the extent to which a submission is without prejudice to the matters relating to the delimitation of boundaries with another or other States Parties to this Agreement.

In this sense, this Joint Partial Submission made by the Governments of Costa Rica and Ecuador concerns only the region of the Panama Basin located beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured by all States. This Joint Partial Submission is made taking into consideration:

- the bilateral maritime boundaries established by the Treaties between Colombia and Ecuador in 1975, Colombia and Costa Rica in 1984, and Costa Rica and Ecuador in 2014; and
- a clear understanding that, in accordance with paragraph 10 of article 76, the provisions of article 76 are without prejudice to the question of delimitation of the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts in the Panama Basin. Thus, any bilateral

international boundary of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles shall be determined in the Panama Basin in the future in accordance with the provisions contained in paragraph 1 of article 83 of the Convention and international law as a whole.

In light of the above provisions contained in the Convention and Annex I to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, Costa Rica and Ecuador make this Joint Partial Submission in the Panama Basin through the Secretary-General to the Commission

- i) to fulfil their obligations pursuant to paragraph 8 of article 76 of, and article 4 of Annex II to the Convention;
- ii) in accordance with the methodology contained in paragraphs 1 to 7 of article 76 of the Convention; and
- iii) without prejudice to questions relating to the delimitation of the continental shelf between States in accordance with paragraph 10 of article 76 and international law.

This Joint Partial Submission contains data and information used in support of the determination of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles of Costa Rica and Ecuador in the Panama Basin in accordance with the Convention and the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS/11⁹; CLCS/11/Corr. 1¹⁰; CLCS/11/Add. 1¹¹; and CLCS/11/Add. 1/Corr. 1¹²).

⁹ <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N99/171/08/IMG/N9917108.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N00/355/60/IMG/N0035560.pdf>

¹¹ <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N99/338/93/PDF/N9933893.pdf>

¹² <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N99/356/61/IMG/N9935661.pdf>

2. THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE PANAMA BASIN

The Convention offers two complementary provisions designed to provide the definition of the continental margin and the breadth of its outer limit. The first provision, contained in paragraph 3 of article 76, provides its definition:

3. The continental margin comprises the submerged prolongation of the land mass of the coastal State, and consists of the sea-bed and subsoil of the shelf, the slope and the rise. It does not include the deep ocean floor with its oceanic ridges or the subsoil thereof.

The second provision, contained in paragraph 4 (a) (i) and (ii), subject to paragraphs 5 and 6 of article 76, determines the position of the outer limit of the continental margin by means of a complex formula based on four rules. Two of these rules are affirmative and the remaining two are negative. The two positive rules, herein referred to as *formulae*, are connected through an inclusive disjunction:

- (i) a line delineated in accordance with paragraph 7 by reference to the outermost fixed points at each of which the thickness of sedimentary rocks is at least 1 per cent of the shortest distance from such point to the foot of the continental slope; or*
- (ii) a line delineated in accordance with paragraph 7 by reference to fixed points not more than 60 nautical miles from the foot of the slope.*

The use of an inclusive disjunction between the two *formulae* above implies that it is sufficient that one formula line extends beyond 200 nautical miles in order to ensure the determination of an outer limit of the continental shelf beyond this distance. Thus, the limit of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles can be extended up to a line delineated by reference to fixed points where sediment thickness is at least 1% from the shortest distance to the foot of the

continental slope, or to a line delineated by reference to fixed points at a distance of 60 nautical miles from the foot of the continental slope, whichever is furthest from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.

The use of an inclusive disjunction also implies that when both *formulae* lines are used, their outer envelope determines the maximum potential extent of entitlement over the continental shelf by a coastal State. If any portion of this outer envelope extends beyond 200 nautical miles, the test of appurtenance would be satisfied and a coastal State would be in a position to apply the full range of provisions contained in paragraphs 4 to 6 to determine the outer limits of the continental shelf extended beyond 200 nautical miles.

The determination of the outer limits of the continental margin is an essential procedure of the implementation of article 76. The outer envelope line of the 1% sediment thickness and the foot of the slope plus 60 nautical miles lines *formulae* is used once again in this procedure. But it is still subject to spatial constraints in order to produce the determination of the outer limits of the continental shelf.

The extent of the outer envelope formed by the lines derived from the two *formulae* is restricted by a line derived from the two lines, defined by the Commission as constraints. According to paragraph 5 of article 76, the simultaneous application of these two constraints defines the outer limit beyond which the continental shelf cannot be extended:

The fixed points comprising the line of the outer limits of the continental shelf on the seabed, drawn in accordance with paragraph 4 (a) (i) and (ii), either shall not exceed 350 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured or shall not exceed 100 nautical miles from the 2,500 metre isobath, which is a line connecting the depth of 2,500 metres.

Article 76 also contains provisions specifically designed to differentiate the application of the constraints vis-à-vis different kinds of seafloor highs. Whereas the application of a single constraint line is applicable in the cases of submarine ridges, the simultaneous application of the two constraints is applicable in the cases of submarine elevations:

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 5, on submarine ridges, the outer limit of the continental shelf shall not exceed 350 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured. This paragraph does not apply to submarine elevations that are natural components of the continental margin, such as its plateaux, rises, caps, banks and spurs.

Costa Rica and Ecuador consider the Cocos and Carnegie Ridges as submarine ridges under the provisions of paragraphs 5 and 6 of article 76.

The outer limit of the continental margin beyond 200 nautical miles in the Panama Basin is determined under the above provisions by means of the application of a single formula line provided by reference to fixed points not more than 60 nautical miles from the foot of the continental slope. This formula line satisfies the constraint provided by the 350 nautical miles line determined from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured from the Island of Cocos in Costa Rica and the Galápagos Islands in Ecuador.

The outer limit of the continental shelf in the Panama Basin is determined in accordance with the provisions contained in paragraph 7 of article 76:

7. The coastal State shall delineate the outer limits of its continental shelf, where that shelf extends beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured, by straight lines not exceeding 60 nautical miles in length, connecting fixed points, defined by coordinates of latitude and longitude.

2.1 THE FOOT OF THE CONTINENTAL SLOPE PLUS 60 NAUTICAL MILES FORMULA

Bathymetric and morphological information was assembled in order to demonstrate that the seabed and subsoil of the submarine areas that extend beyond the territorial sea to the outer edge of the continental margin are the natural prolongation of the land territory of Costa Rica and Ecuador (Article 76, Paragraph 1). Bathymetric surveys were conducted and morphological criteria were implemented to demonstrate the legal entitlement of Costa Rica and Ecuador to extend the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and to determine the coordinates of these limits.

The geodetic coordinates of the foot of the slope points were determined by means of morphological criteria as the points of maximum change in the gradient at its base. The distance formula was implemented by means of the method of envelopes of arcs in accordance with paragraph 7 by reference to fixed points not more than 60 nautical miles from the foot of the continental slope (Article 76, Paragraph 4 (ii)). These points define the outer limit of the continental margin of Costa Rica and Ecuador in the Panama Basin beyond 200 nautical miles (Figure 1.3).

2.2 THE 350 NAUTICAL MILES CONSTRAINT

The extent of the formula line is restricted by a line derived from a single line, defined by the Commission as a constraint. According to paragraph 6 of article 76, the application of this single constraint determined at a distance of 350 nautical miles defines the outer limit beyond which the continental shelf cannot be extended in the cases of submarine ridges.

Geodetic baseline information was collected to determine the location of the constraint line at a distance of 350 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is

measured in the Panama Basin. This constraint is satisfied by the points which define the outer limit of the continental shelf of Costa Rica and Ecuador beyond 200 nautical miles (Figure 1.3).

3. NAMES OF MEMBERS OF THE CLCS WHO PROVIDED ADVICE

Costa Rica and Ecuador received advice from Mr. Galo Carrera-Hurtado, a former member and officer of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

4. ABSENCE OF DISPUTES

The Panama Basin is a region where there are not insular or territorial disputes. The maritime spaces under national jurisdiction have been fully delimited up to a distance of 200 nautical miles among Colombia, Costa Rica and Ecuador. The continental shelf spaces beyond 200 nautical miles between Costa Rica and Ecuador have not been subject to international boundary delimitation to this date.

This outer limit of the continental shelf is also established without prejudice to the outer limits of maritime spaces under the national jurisdiction of any other States. Thus, there are no boundary disputes or controversies in any portion of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles submitted to the Commission.

This Joint Partial Submission is made with the understanding by Costa Rica and Ecuador that, notwithstanding the outcome of the Recommendations made by the CLCS and the outer limit determined by their Governments based on those Recommendations, the delimitation of the continental shelf boundaries beyond 200 nautical miles in the Panama Basin shall be carried by agreement between States based on international law.

5. COSTA RICA AND ECUADOR INSTITUTIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PREPARATION OF THIS JOINT PARTIAL SUBMISSION

The institutions responsible for the preparation of this submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in Costa Rica are:

- Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship);
- Instituto Geográfico Nacional del Registro Nacional de Costa Rica, Ministerio de Justicia y Paz (National Geographic Institute of the National Registry of Costa Rica, Ministry of Justice and Peace);
- División Marítimo Portuaria, Ministerio de Obras Públicas y Transportes (Port Maritime Division, Ministry of Public Works and Transport);
- Dirección General de Geología y Minas, Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía (General Directorate of Geology and Mines, Ministry of the Environment and Energy);
- Centro de Investigación en Ciencias del Mar y Limnología, Universidad de Costa Rica (Research Center in Sciences of the Sea and Limnology, University of Costa Rica);
- Escuela de Administración Pública, Universidad de Costa Rica (School of Public Administration, University of Costa Rica);
- Observatorio Vulcanológico y Sismológico de Costa Rica, Universidad Nacional (Volcanological and Seismological Observatory of Costa Rica, National University);
- Escuela de Relaciones Internacionales, Universidad Nacional (School of International Relations, National University); and
- Laboratorio PRIAS del Centro Nacional de Alta Tecnología, Consejo Nacional de Rectores (PRIAS Laboratory of the National Centre of Advanced Technology, National Council of Chancellors).

The institutions responsible for the preparation of this submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in Ecuador are:

- Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Movilidad Humana (Ministry of Foreign Relations and Human Mobility);
- Ministerio de Defensa Nacional (Ministry of National Defense);
- Secretaría Técnica de Planificación "Planifica Ecuador" (Technical Secretariat of Planning "Planifica Ecuador");
- Armada del Ecuador (Navy of Ecuador);
- Dirección General de Intereses Marítimos de la Armada (Directorate-General of Maritime Interests of the Navy); and
- Instituto Oceanográfico y Antártico de la Armada (Oceanographic and Antarctic Institute of the Navy).

6. THE OUTER LIMIT OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF

Table 1.1 lists the coordinates of the turning points which define the outer limit of the continental shelf presented for the consideration of the CLCS in this Joint Partial Submission by Costa Rica and Ecuador. The northern endpoint of this outer limit remains deliberately short of the outer limit of the exclusive economic zone of Colombia in the region. This action was taken with great caution in order to avoid any potential prejudice to the determination of the outer limits of any maritime spaces under the national jurisdiction of Colombia. Figure 1.4 shows the outer limit of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the Panama Basin.

Table 1.1: List of coordinates of the turning points that define the outer limit of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles at distances not exceeding 60 nautical miles. These coordinates are referred to the geodetic reference system ITRF/WGS84.

Outer Limit of the continental shelf turning point	Latitude N	Longitude W	Distance (M)
1	1.21466479°	83.58231126°	59.735819
2	1.91352609°	84.29378720°	0.538587
3	1.92237805°	84.29205874°	0.538585
4	1.93124525°	84.29040931°	0.538586
5	1.94012700°	84.28883903°	0.538585
6	1.94902256°	84.28734803°	0.538585
7	1.95793123°	84.28593643°	0.538585
8	1.96685229°	84.28460436°	0.538586
9	1.97578502°	84.28335191°	

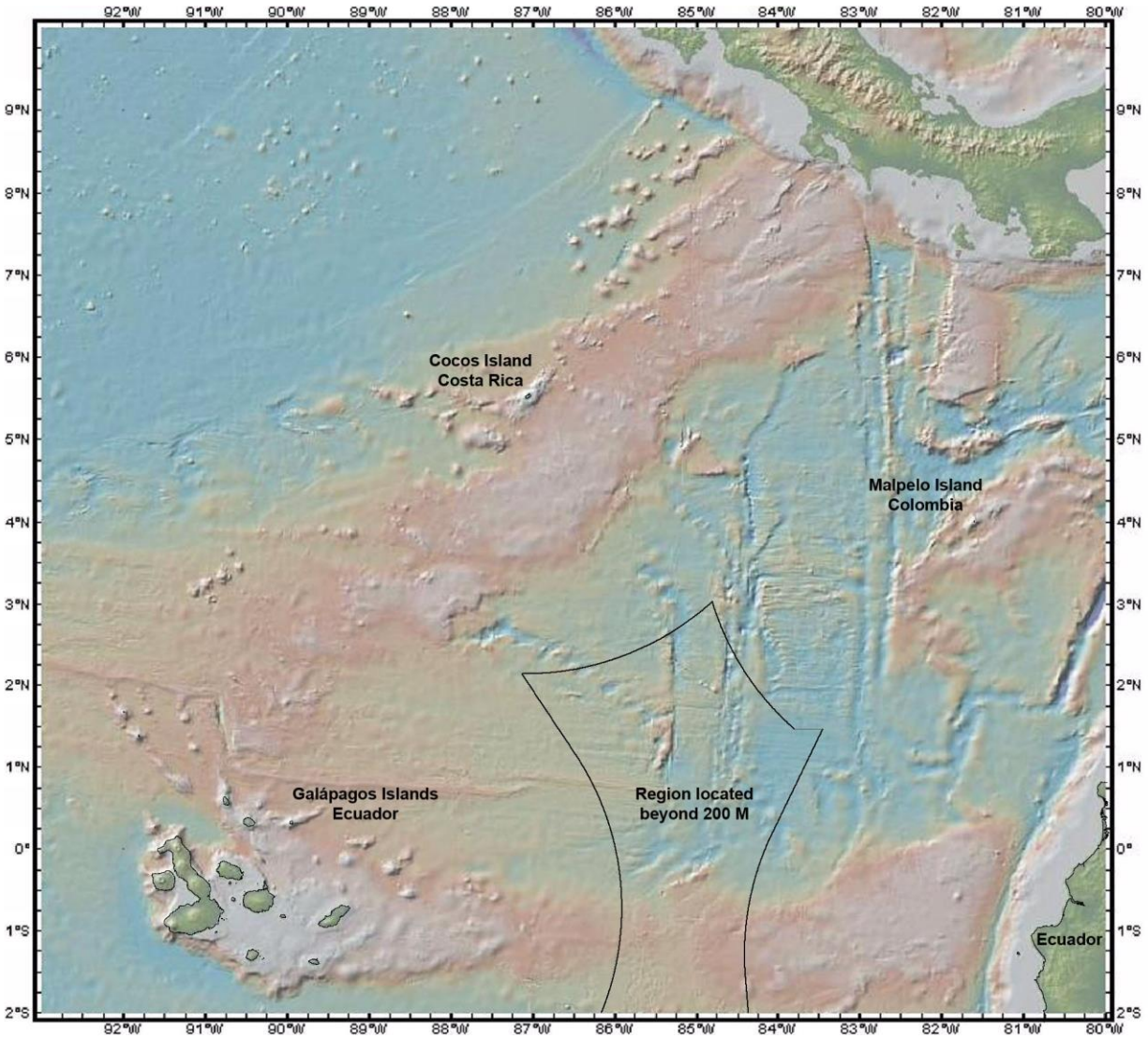


Figure 1.1: The maritime region located beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured in the Panama Basin.

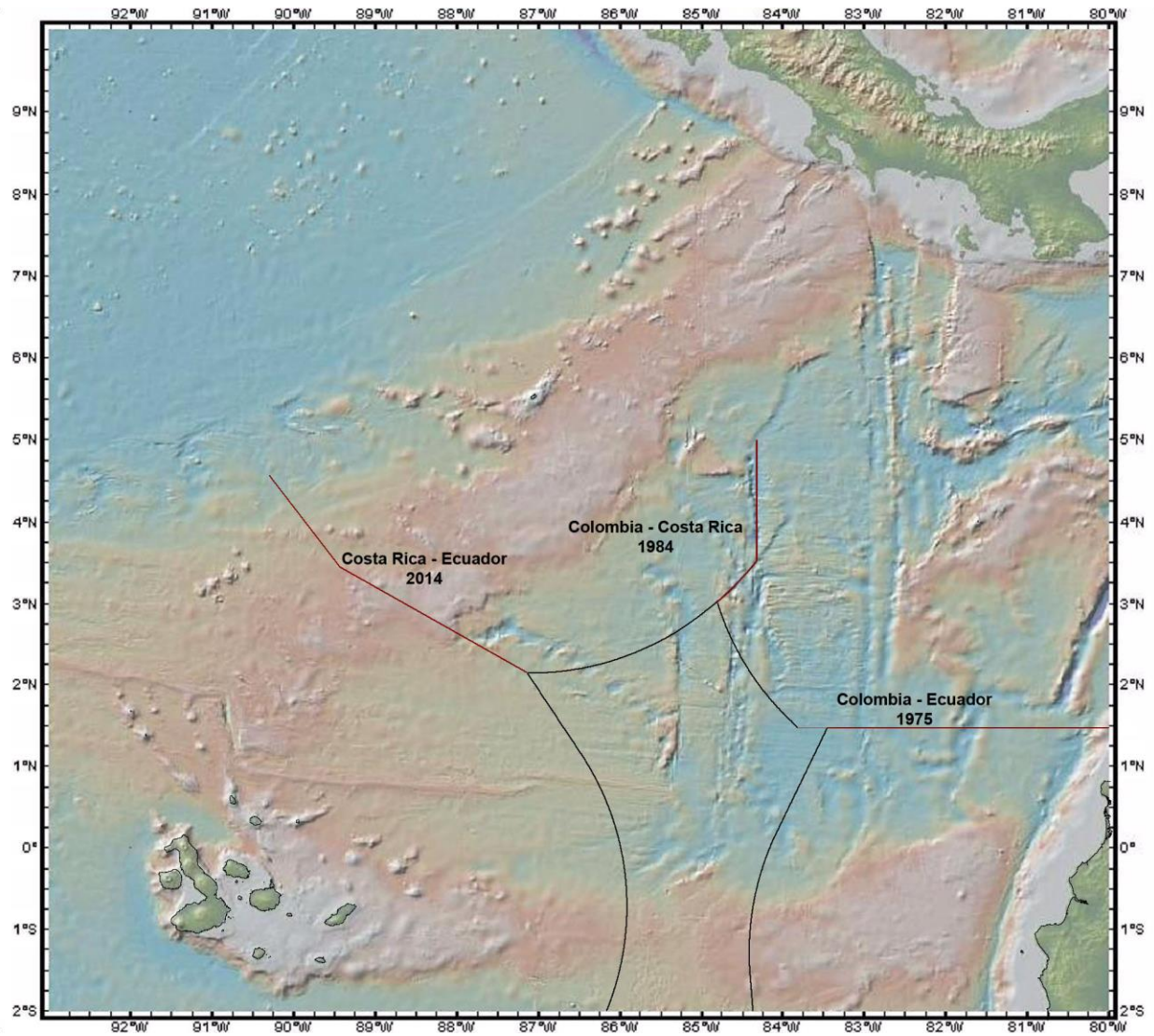


Figure 1.2: International maritime boundary agreements in force between Colombia, Costa Rica, and Ecuador in the Panama Basin (red lines).

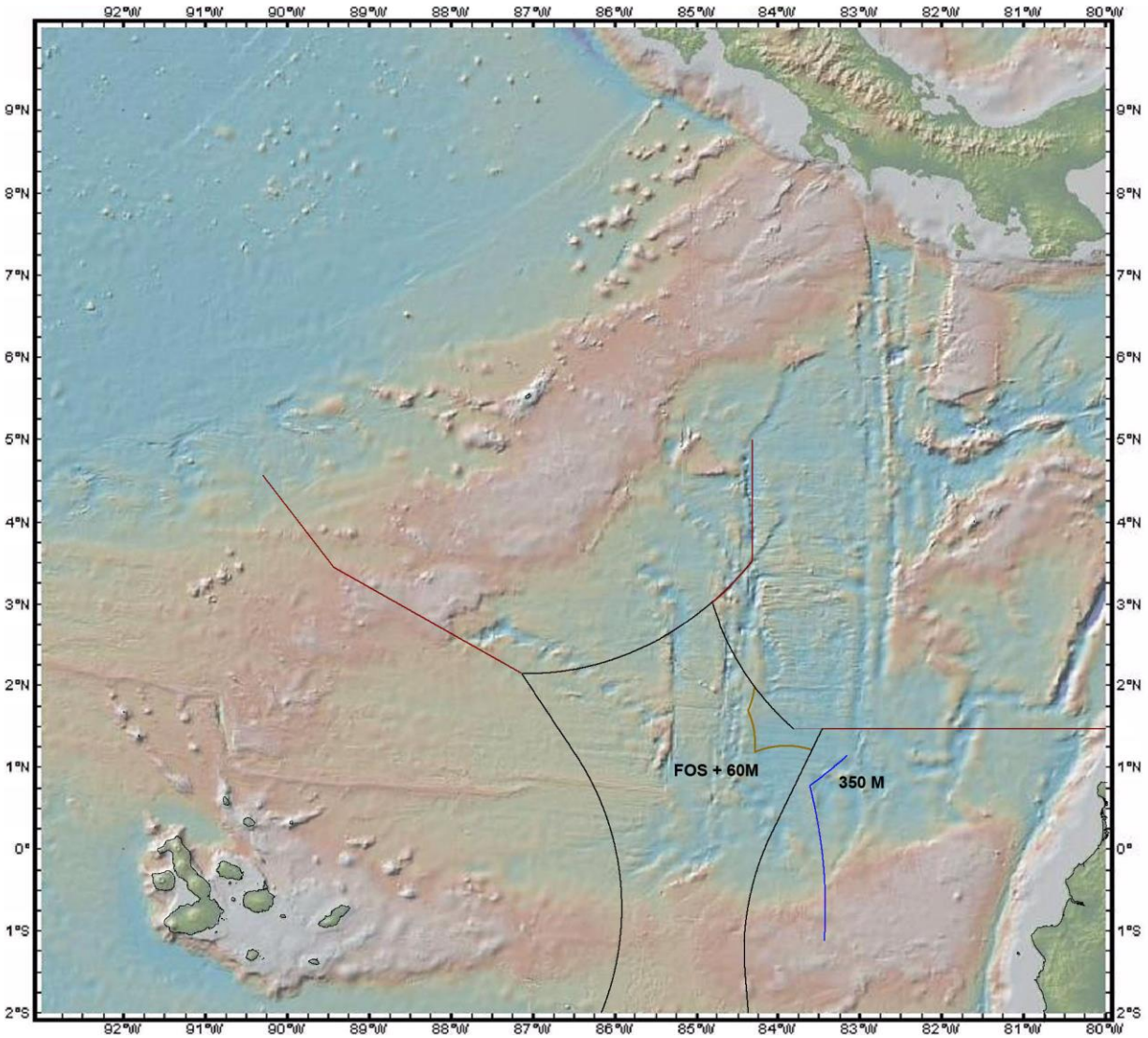


Figure 1.3: The foot of the continental slope plus 60 nautical miles formula (brown line) and the 350 nautical miles constraint (blue line).

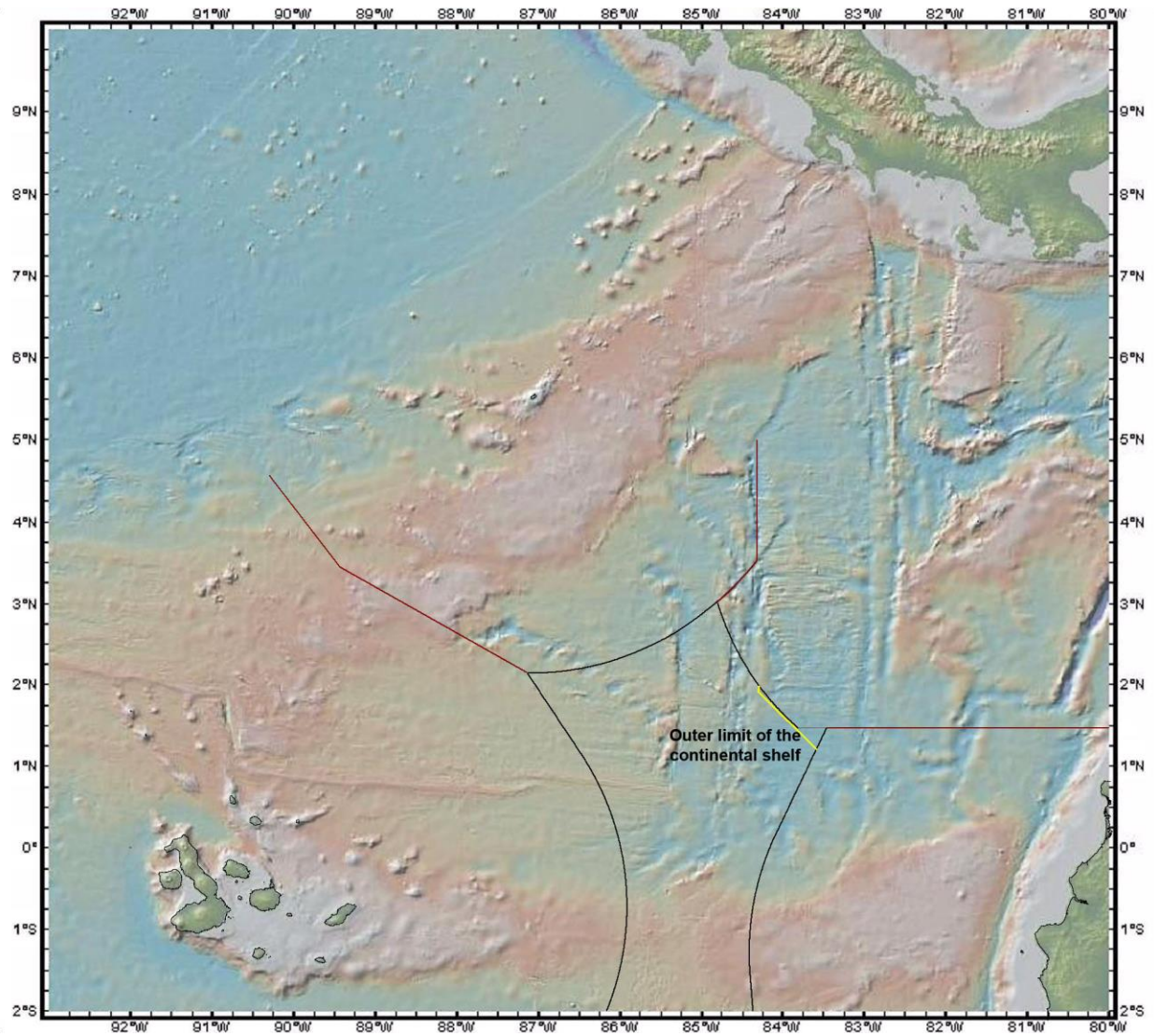


Figure 1.4: The outer limit of the continental shelf of Costa Rica and Ecuador beyond 200 nautical miles in the Panama Basin (yellow line).