

*Translated from French*

**Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of  
Morocco to the United Nations**  
New York

NV/ATL/N°/114/2015

The Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, and, with regard to the question of the delimitation of the maritime areas between Morocco and Spain, has the honour to inform it that the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco:

1. Takes note of the notification of the Secretary-General of the United Nations issued on 17 December 2014 under reference CLCS.77.2014.OLS and of the executive summary of the partial submission of data and information on the limits of the continental shelf of Spain to the west of the Canary Islands, pursuant to Part VI of and annex II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as disseminated by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ([http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs\\_new/submissions\\_files/esp77\\_14/esp\\_2014\\_en.pdf](http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/submissions_files/esp77_14/esp_2014_en.pdf));
2. Emphasizes that the partial submission of the Government of Spain relates to the continental shelf in maritime areas which concern Morocco and Spain and have not yet been delimited;
3. Recalls that the general provisions for the definition of the continental shelf in article 76, paragraph 10, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 "are without prejudice to the question of delimitation of the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts" and emphasizes that in this case "the delimitation of the continental shelf [...] 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" (article 83, paragraph 1);

4. Reaffirms its position of principle in rejecting any act designed to unilaterally delimit the continental shelf and calls for the faithful application of the relevant rules of international law, in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and international practice and case law in the area;
5. Remains committed in particular to the principle of equity in the delimitation of both the continental shelf and the exclusive economic zone, in keeping with the spirit and the letter of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982, particularly its articles 83 and 74;
6. Notes that the partial submission of the Government of Spain contains information regarding the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the area to the west of the Canary Islands and, because that distance is measured from the baselines established in Law No. 44/2010 on the waters of the Canary Islands, recalls that the Kingdom of Morocco notified the Government of the Kingdom of Spain at the appropriate time of its reservations related to the Spanish Government's interpretation in that law of the provisions of Part IV of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, concerning archipelagos;
7. Requests that the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf take into account the foregoing in its examination of the partial submission of data and information on the limits of the continental shelf of Spain to the west of the Canary Islands, pursuant to Part VI of and annex II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, included in the provisional agenda of the thirty-eighth session of the Commission, to be held from 20 July to 4 September 2015 in New York.

The Government of the Kingdom of Morocco requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations to register and disseminate the present note and publish it in all relevant United Nations documents.

The Permanent Mission of Morocco to the United Nations takes this opportunity to convey to the United Nations Secretariat, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 10 March 2015