



Note No.894

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations and, with reference to the partial submission filed on 16 April 2014 by the French Republic in respect of the area of St. Pierre and Miquelon, has the honour to convey the following:

As indicated in a diplomatic note addressed to the Secretary General of the United Nations on 9 November 2009, the Government of Canada completely rejects any claims by the French Republic to any maritime area, including any areas of continental shelf, beyond the area awarded to the French Republic by the Court of Arbitration in the *Case concerning the Delimitation of Maritime Areas between Canada and the French Republic (10 June 1992)*. Consistent with the 1992 decision, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and principles of international law, a claim by the French Republic to an area of extended continental shelf off St. Pierre and Miquelon simply cannot arise. Consequently, consideration and qualification by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf of the partial submission by the French Republic in respect of the area of St. Pierre and Miquelon would prejudice the rights of Canada over the continental shelf in this area. With reference to paragraph 5(a) of Annex I of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, the Government of Canada thus requests the Commission not to consider the partial submission filed on 16 April 2014 by the French Republic in respect of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

The Government of Canada takes note of the statement by the French Republic in section five of the executive summary of the French Republic's partial submission that a maritime dispute exists as a result of an overlap of areas of continental shelf described by Canada and the French Republic in their respective submissions. As stated by the French Republic in the executive summary of its partial submission, this overlap arises only with respect to the Nova Scotia region of Canada's partial submission regarding its continental

shelf in the Atlantic Ocean. More specifically, this overlap occurs only with respect to a portion of the Nova Scotia region of Canada's submission. The Government of Canada accordingly requests the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf to refrain from considering this portion of its submission and is willing to cooperate with the Commission to identify this portion with precision. Consistent with Annex I of the Rules of Procedure, the Government of Canada requests the Commission to consider all other portions of its partial submission concerning its continental shelf in the Atlantic Ocean. This action by Canada should not be construed by the French Republic or any other state as recognition by Canada of the legitimacy of the position of the French Republic on this matter.

The Government of Canada reserves the right to make additional comments in relation to the partial submission filed by the French Republic or any other information or document that the French Republic may subsequently file with the Secretary General or the Commission in relation to St. Pierre and Miquelon.

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations requests that this note be made available to States Parties to the Convention and members of the Commission.

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York  
3 September, 2014

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SEP 4 2014

DIVISION FOR OCEAN AFFAIRS  
AND THE LIMITS OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF

