

संयुक्त राष्ट्र स्थित भारत का स्थायी मिशन न्यूयॉर्क

PERMANENT MISSION OF INDIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

No. PMI/NY/443/5/2021

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of India to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and has the honor to draw latter's attention to the partial submissions related to the Western offshore region (Arabian Sea) presented by the Republic of India on 11th May, 2009 to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS).

- 2. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of India would like to state that India in its first partial submission to CLCS had clearly mentioned that there were outstanding maritime delimitation issues with Pakistan and Oman and that the submission was being made without prejudice to matters relating to delimitation of boundaries with India's neighboring states, i.e. Pakistan and Oman.
- 3. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of India would further like to state that Pakistan's claim submission on 30th April, 2009 mentioned that the maritime boundary line between Pakistan and India has not yet been delimited, that its delimitation is pending because of a land boundary dispute between the two States in the Sir Creek area, and that talks to resolve the boundary dispute were ongoing.
- 4. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of India would like to reiterate that Pakistan's claim submission has been examined by the CLCS and recommendations made in 2015 despite outstanding maritime delimitation issues remaining even at that time. In this context, Pakistan's objection after 11 years of India's submission, particularly when the Sub-commission is at an advanced stage in the process of examining the Indian submission, is objectionable.
- 5. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of India would also like to bring to notice that the recommendation of CLCS in favor of Pakistan pertains to the same area-the Western offshore region in the Arabian Sea, over which India has outstanding maritime delimitation issue with Pakistan. It is pertinent to note that the submission made by Pakistan had not been formally contested, given the clear legal understanding that the recommendations of CLCS on matters relating to the outer limits of the continental shelf, shall be without prejudice to the question of the delimitation between adjacent states (in this case India and Pakistan) in terms of paragraph 10 of Article 76 and Article 9 Annex II of UNCLOS.
- 6. In the light of the above the Permanent Mission of the Republic of India requests CLCS to consider India's submissions expeditiously.
- 7. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of India to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary- General of the United Nations, the assurances of its highest consideration.

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New York, 29.11.2021

H.E. Mr. Antonio S. Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations, New York