

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES

Note No. 11031/11

24 March 2011

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to the latter's communication No. CLCS.53.2010.LOS (Continental Shelf Notification) dated 28 July 2010 relating to the submission made by the Republic of Maldives to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf as well as to the Note No. 10887/10 of the Permanent Mission dated 29 October 2010.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius had in its Note No.10887/10 informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations that it would make its own observations on the submission made by the Republic of Maldives. In this regard, the Permanent Mission wishes to inform the Secretary-General that following discussions between the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Maldives, the Republic of Maldives had in October 2010 agreed with the Republic of Mauritius that it would amend its submission to take into account the Exclusive Economic Zone co-ordinates of the Republic of Mauritius in the Chagos Archipelago region. However, despite the undertaking given, the Government of the Republic of Mauritius notes that no addendum has up to now been filed with the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Republic of Maldives to amend its submission.

The Permanent Mission further wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of the Republic of Mauritius reiterates the sovereignty of Mauritius over the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia, which forms an integral part of the territory of the Republic of Mauritius under both Mauritian law and international law. The Republic of Mauritius further affirms that the Chagos Archipelago was illegally excised by the United Kingdom from the territory of Mauritius prior to its independence in violation of the UN General Assembly Resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 2066 (XX) of 16 December 1965 and that it does not recognize the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory".

The Republic of Mauritius hereby protests formally against the submission made by the Republic of Maldives in as much as the Extended Continental Shelf being claimed by the Republic of Maldives encroaches on the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Mauritius, the coordinates of which were communicated to the Secretary-General in a Note dated 20 June 2008.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius wishes to inform the Secretary-General that once the Republic of Maldives submits an addendum to amend its submission to take into account the coordinates of the Mauritius Exclusive Economic Zone, a fresh communication will be issued.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations requests that its Note Verbale be circulated to all Members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, all States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea as well as Members of the United Nations.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Mauritius 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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H.E. Mr. Ban Ki-moon Secretary-General of the United Nations New York