

**Preliminary Information Indicative
of the outer limits of the continental shelf**

and

Description of the status of preparation of making

a submission

**To the Commission on the Limits of the
Continental Shelf**

for

SOMALIA

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1. Introduction

Somalia ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, hereinafter referred to as "the Convention", on 24 July 1989. The Convention entered into force for Somalia on 16 November 1994.

Article 4 of Annex II to the Convention stipulates that where a coastal State intends to establish, in accordance with article 76, the outer limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured, it should submit particulars of such limits to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, hereinafter referred to as "the Commission", along with supporting scientific and technical data as soon as possible, but in any case within ten years from the entry into force of the Convention for that State.

In 2001 the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention decided that 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 (document SPLOS/72, paragraph (a)). This decision applies to Somalia. Consequently, in the case of Somalia the ten-year time period referred to in article 4 of Annex II of the Convention expires on 13 May 2009.

The Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention also decided that the general issue of the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of Annex II to the Convention be kept under review (document SPLOS/72, paragraph (b)). Due to lack of financial and technical resources and relevant capacity and expertise, or other similar constraints, many developing countries are facing particular challenges to fulfil these requirements.

In June 2008 the Eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention therefore decided that it is understood that the ten-year time period referred to in article 4 of Annex II to the Convention may be satisfied by submitting preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured, and a description of the status of preparation and intended date of making a submission (document SPLOS/183, paragraph 1 (a)).

Somalia is among the developing States that faces particular challenges in fulfilling the requirements of article 4 of Annex II to the Convention due to lack of financial and technical resources and relevant capacity and expertise. Moreover, Somalia continues to experience a number of other constraints relating to the political and security situation in the country, substantially hindering the fulfilment of these requirements.

On this background in October 2008 the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) for Somalia, Mr Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, initiated the preparation of preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf of Somalia beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial

sea is measured, to be submitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with the decision contained in SPLOS/183. In the preparation of this material the SRSG accepted an offer of assistance from the Government of Norway.

The initiative of the SRSG falls within a comprehensive and integrated United Nations strategic approach for peace and stability in Somalia, aligning and integrating political, security and programmatic efforts in a sequenced and mutually reinforcing way. It should also be noted that in its resolution 1851 (2008) of 16 December 2008 the Security Council reaffirmed “its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia, including Somalia’s rights with respect to offshore natural resources, including fisheries, in accordance with international law”. It is hoped that the submission on behalf of Somalia of preliminary information in accordance with the decision contained in SPLOS/183 will have a positive impact on the political process in Somalia in order to consolidate stability, peace and reconciliation in the country. The submission is intended to safeguard potentially important interests of future Somali generations and clearly serve the interest of Somalia.

The Norwegian offer of assistance to the SRSG should be seen in the context of Norway’s commitment to a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the situation in Somalia and as an expression of Norway’s support to the SRSG in carrying out his mandate. In this respect it is recalled that in its resolution 1801 (2008) of 20 February 2008 the Security Council called upon “all international organisations and Member States to support his (the SRSG) work in order to enhance security and bring a comprehensive and lasting peace to Somalia”.

It is also recalled that in paragraph 19 of its resolution A/RES/63/111 on Oceans and the law of the sea of 5 December 2008, the General Assembly called upon “States to assist developing States, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as coastal African States, at the bilateral and, where appropriate, at the multilateral level, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission regarding the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including the assessment of the nature and extent of the continental shelf of a coastal State through a desktop study, and the delineation of the outer limits of its continental shelf as well as in the preparation of preliminary information to be submitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with the decision contained in SPLOS/183”.

The new Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic was sworn in on 22 February 2009. At a meeting in Nairobi on 10 March 2009 between the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources of the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic, Professor Abdirahman Adan Ibrahim Ibbi, the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia, Mr Charles Petrie, and Ambassador Hans Wilhelm Longva from the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic was informed about the initiative of the SRSG and of the Norwegian assistance.

At a meeting on 12 March 2009 the Council of Ministers of Somalia approved the submission by Somalia to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in accordance with SPLOS/183 of preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles. The Council of Ministers expressed its gratitude to the SRSG, Mr Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, for his initiative and to the Government of Norway for its assistance.

2. Assistance and advice received during the preparation of this submission.

As stated in paragraph 1 above the Government of Norway has provided assistance and advice to the SRSG as well as to the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic in the preparation of the present submission. Both the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate have been involved in the preparation.

Based on open and accessible sources and modern Geographical Information System technology (GIS) the UNEP Shelf Programme, represented by GRID-Arendal, has provided an initial desktop study of the Somali continental shelf for the purpose of the present submission.

The SRSG and the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic were moreover assisted in the preparation of the present submission by Mr Harald Brekke, member of the Commission (1997 – present). No advice was provided by any other member of the Commission.

At the invitation of the Prime Minister of the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic, Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmake, and the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Professor Abdirahman Adan Ibrahim Ibbi, Ambassador Hans Wilhelm Longva from the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited Mogadishu on 5 and 6 April 2009 to provide assistance and advice in the finalization of the present submission. The Norwegian envoy was also received by President Sharif Sheikh Ahmed and given the opportunity to meet the Council of Ministers for extra explanation of the Somali continental shelf issues.

All expenses related to the preparation of the present submission have been covered by the Government of Norway.

The Norwegian assistance was based on the following premises agreed by the SRSG:

- The assistance should not amount to the preparation of a submission to the Commission in accordance with article 76 of the Convention and article 4 of Annex II to the Convention, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a), but should be limited to the preparation of preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf of Somalia

beyond 200 nautical miles to be submitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with the decision contained in SPLOS/183, paragraph 1 (a).

- Norway takes no position on, nor does it accept any responsibility for, any legal or other issues pertaining to the preparation of the submission, including with regard to baselines.
- The assistance and advice provided by Norway should be based on open and accessible sources, notably an initial desktop study based on modern Geographical Information System technology (GIS) to be provided by the UNEP Shelf Programme, represented by GRID Arendal.
- A main purpose of the Norwegian assistance is to ensure that, in accordance with the decision contained in SPLOS/183, paragraph 1 (a), Somalia satisfies the time period referred to in article 4 of Annex II to the Convention and the decision contained in SPLOS/72.

3. Outer limit of the continental shelf of Somalia – Baselines

The present preliminary information and description deal with the outer limits of the continental shelf appurtenant to Somalia, without prejudice to any issues of bilateral maritime delimitation with neighbouring States. Such issues will be referred to under item 6 below.

In accordance with Article 2 of Somalia's Law No. 37 on the Territorial Sea and Ports of 10 September 1972, the normal baseline for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea is the low-water line along the coast, unless particularly provided. As regards the present communication all measurements will be carried out based on the World Vector Shoreline as an approximation of this normal baseline.

4. Provisions of article 76 invoked in support of this communication

The provisions of paragraphs 1, 3 and 4 of article 76 of the Convention are referred to in support of preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

5. General description of the continental margin in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Somalia¹

The Somali continental margin is characterized by a narrow continental shelf which broadens slightly to the north. Midway between the border with Kenya in the south and the tip of the Horn of Africa to the north, there is a pronounced submarine spur protruding eastward (herein after termed as the Central Somali Spur). South of the Central Somali Spur, the continental slope has a smooth gradient compared to the more complex morphology to the north. The deep abyssal plain of the Somali Basin is at a depth of about 5000 m.

¹ Source: Bhattacharya, G.C. and Chaubey, A. K., 2001. Western Indian Ocean – A Glimpse of the Tectonic Scenario. In: *The Indian Ocean, A Perspective*, PP. 691 – 729.

The Somali Basin is subdivided into three sub-basins. The Central Somali Spur separates the Northern Somali Basin in the north from the Western Somali Basin in the south. Both sub-basins have a sediment thickness of about 2 km. The Eastern Somali Basin is located to the east, separated from the two other sub-basins by south-west and southward trending seafloor ridges, including the Chain Ridge (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

The Chain Ridge extends northwards until it connects to the southern flank of the Carlsberg Ridge in line with the trend of the Owen Fracture Zone, which connects the Carlsberg Ridge with the Sheba Ridge to the north. The Error Seamount (with a minimum water depth of about 370 m) is located at the junction of the Carlsberg Ridge and the Owen Fracture Zone.

The Carlsberg Ridge constitutes the northern part of the Central Indian Ridge, which is the active spreading ridge of the Indian Ocean. The Sheba Ridge continues westwards from the Owen Fracture Zone, north of Socotra and into the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea.

As part of Gondwana Land, Somalia was juxtaposed Madagascar and northern India in the Jurassic; Madagascar south of the Central Somali Spur and northern India to the north.

The initial rifting of these parts of Gondwana Land, prior to the opening of the Somali Basin, commenced in the Middle Jurassic. Both the Western and Eastern Somali Basin crust have magnetic anomalies showing presence of old oceanic crust. The magnetic anomalies in the Western Somali Basin are interpreted to represent both limbs of an extinct spreading segment. The crust of the small Northern Somali Basin also shows magnetic anomalies of relatively low amplitude indicative of oceanic crust.

The magnetic anomalies suggest that spreading commenced in Late Jurassic at the oldest anomaly (M22) and became extinct at anomaly M0 (Early Cretaceous). A phase of renewed seafloor spreading started in Late Cretaceous moving India northwards along with the eastern parts of the Somali Basin, which was split by the process. It is believed that the Chain Ridge was formed during this splitting and transcurrent plate movement.

The details of the opening of the Indian Ocean are still a matter of discussion and research, but it is clear that the continental margin of Somalia is part of a passive continental margin. The latter was formed in Jurassic times by the continental break-up between the African Continent and the continental block of Madagascar and India.

6. Maritime delimitations and other issues

All information and maps contained in this submission are without prejudice to issues of maritime delimitation. Nor do they constitute any statement or expression of views by the United Nations, Norway or UNEP Shelf Programme/GRID Arendal.

Unresolved questions remain in relation to bilateral delimitation of the continental shelf with neighbouring States. Such questions will have to be considered by reference to Rule 46 and Annex I of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

On 7 April 2009, following consultations between the two sides, the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya, both being duly authorized by their respective Governments, signed in Nairobi a Memorandum of Understanding with the following content:

Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic to grant to each other No-Objection in respect of submissions on the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf beyond 200 Nautical Miles to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

The Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic, in the spirit of co-operation and mutual understanding have agreed to conclude this Memorandum of Understanding:

The delimitation of the continental shelf between the Republic of Kenya and the Somali Republic (hereinafter collectively referred to as the two coastal States) has not yet been settled. This unresolved delimitation issue between the two coastal States is to be considered as a "maritime dispute". The claims of the two coastal States cover an overlapping area of the continental shelf which constitutes the "area under dispute".

The two coastal States are conscious that the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles is without prejudice to the question of delimitation of the continental shelf between states with opposite or adjacent coasts. While the two coastal States have differing interests regarding the delimitation of the continental shelf in the area under dispute, they have a strong common interest with respect to the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, without prejudice to the future delimitation of the continental shelf between them. On this basis the two coastal States are determined to work together to safeguard and promote their common interest with respect to the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

Before 13 May 2009 the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic intends to submit to the Secretary-General of the United Nations preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles. This submission may include the area under dispute. It will solely aim at complying with the time period referred to in article (4) of Annex II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of The Sea (UNCLOS). It shall not prejudice the positions of the two coastal States with respect to the maritime dispute between them and shall be without prejudice to the future delimitation of maritime boundaries in the area under dispute, including the delimitation of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles. On this understanding the Republic of Kenya has no objection to the inclusion of the areas under dispute in the submission by the Somali Republic of preliminary

information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

The two coastal States agree that at an appropriate time, in the case of the Republic of Kenya before 13 May 2009, each of them will make separate submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission"), that may include the area under dispute, asking the Commission to make recommendations with respect to the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles without regard to the delimitation of maritime boundaries between them. The two coastal States hereby give their prior consent to the consideration by the Commission of these submissions in the area under dispute. The submissions made before the Commission and the recommendations approved by the Commission thereon shall not prejudice the positions of the two coastal States with respect to the maritime dispute between them and shall be without prejudice to the future delimitation of maritime boundaries in the area under dispute, including the delimitation of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

The delimitation of maritime boundaries in the area under dispute, including the delimitation of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, shall be agreed between the two coastal States on the basis of international law after the Commission has concluded its examination of the separate submissions made by each of the two coastal States and made its recommendations to the two coastal States concerning the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon its signature.

A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the two Ministers is enclosed.

So far there have been no similar consultations between the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic and the Republic of Yemen. There may be a potential overlap between the areas of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles claimed by the two coastal states. Possible unresolved delimitation issues between them should be considered as a "maritime dispute" for the purposes of rule 5 (a) of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission.

The Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic is ready to enter into consultations with the Republic of Yemen with a view to reach an agreement which will allow the Commission to consider and make recommendations on submissions by the two coastal states in any areas under dispute without prejudice to a final delimitation of the continental shelf concluded subsequently in these areas by the Somali Republic and the Republic of Yemen.

7. Preliminary information indicative of outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

In accordance with SPLOS/183 op.p. 1 (a), this submission seeks to document that several Foot of the Slope Points (FOS points) have locations that make it clear that Somalia's continental shelf extends beyond 200 nautical miles from the normal baseline.

Considering the limited scientific data available, no final conclusion is made regarding the most appropriate location of the base of the continental slope of Somalia at this stage, Rather it is found incumbent, based on available data, to document at least the minimum extent of the continental shelf in selected key areas – by providing compelling *prima facie* evidence that FOS points may at least be located in certain areas, if not farther from ashore.

While there may be grounds for carrying out additional surveys for the precise identification of FOS points (for which there is the possibility of significant variations), the following FOS points and their projected preliminary outer limit points are submitted as part of preliminary information. These may be subject to later revision.

All figures of this document are organised in APPENDIX 1, which is submitted in a separate file.

7.1 Existing database

Figure 3 and Figure 4 show track lines for bathymetric and seismic data that has been available for analyses to determine if Somalia fills the criteria for an extended continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles (test of appurtenance).

The majority of bathymetric and seismic data are sourced from the Geophysical Data System (Geodas) of NOAA National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) in Colorado.

Additional bathymetric and seismic data are sourced from: Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (IFREMER), Marine Geoscience Data Management System (MG_DMS) and Institut de Physique du Globe de Strasbourg (IPGS).

The following satellite derived bathymetric grids have been used: ETOPO2, ETOPO1 and SRTM30plus_V4.

All data are assembled, reformatted and provided by the One Stop Data Shop (GRID-Arendal, WWW.continentalshef.org).

The analyses of data were done in the Geocap software utilizing the UNCLOS Module (www.Geocap.no). Methods used are documented in the software documentation.

7.2 Foot of the continental slope points

Several FOS points have been identified on single-beam bathymetric profiles from the GEODAS database and on bathymetric profiles extracted from the SRTM30plus_4V grid. Seven of these FOS points generating continental shelf area beyond 200 nautical miles are plotted in Figure 5. Five of these FOS points are described in more detail in the following for documentation purposes and to demonstrate the variable nature of the continental margin of Somalia.

The possibility of identifying FOS points located further seaward than the seven documented here cannot be excluded, should more data be acquired and made available at a later stage.

7.2.1 FOS-1

Basic Data

Data type	Data source
Single beam bathymetric profile	GEODAS, survey V3618

Point FOS-1 is situated at the base of the continental slope of the southern part of Somalia. The continental slope in this area connects the shallow shelf of Somalia with the abyssal plain of the Western Somali Basin in the Indian Ocean. The area of the base of the slope is identified on the basis of the morphology of the continental slope in the area as its depicted both by the single beam bathymetric profile V3618 and the SRTM30plus_4V bathymetric grid. Point FOS-1 was determined as the point of maximum change in gradient within the base of the slope area (Figure 6).

7.2.2 FOS-3

Basic Data

Data type	Data source
Single beam bathymetric profile	GEODAS, survey V3617

Point FOS-3 is located at the base of the continental slope on the southern flank of the Central Somali Spur (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The area of the base of the slope is identified on the basis of the morphology of the continental slope as depicted by the single beam bathymetric profile V3617 that runs obliquely across the spur. Point FOS-3 was determined as the point of maximum change in gradient within the base of the slope area (Figure 7).

7.2.3 FOS-4

Basic Data

Data type	Data source
Single beam bathymetric profile	GEODAS, survey A2008L02

Point FOS-4 is located on the seaward side of a ridge-like southwards extension of the Central Somali Spur (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The base of the slope is defined by a marked down-step of the seafloor on the seaward side of this ridge-like feature as shown on the bathymetric profile A2008L02 (Figure 8). Point FOS-4 was determined as the point of maximum change in gradient within the base of the slope area (Figure 8).

7.2.4 FOS-5

Basic Data

Data type	Data source
Synthetic bathymetric profile extracted from bathymetric grid	SRTM30plus_V4

Point FOS-4 is located at the base of the continental slope on the eastern flank the Central Somali Spur (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The area of the base of the slope is identified on the basis of the morphology of the continental slope in the area as depicted by a synthetic bathymetric profile extracted from the satellite derived bathymetric grid SRTM30plus_V4 (Figure 9). Point FOS-5 was determined as the point of maximum change in gradient within the base of the slope area (Figure 9).

7.2.5 FOS-6

Basic Data

Data type	Data source
Synthetic bathymetric profile extracted from bathymetric grid	SRTM30plus_V4

Point FOS-6 is located at the base of the continental slope on the eastern flank the Central Somali Spur (Figure 1 and Figure 2). The area of the base of the slope is identified on the basis of the morphology of the continental slope in the area as depicted by a synthetic bathymetric profile extracted from the satellite derived bathymetric grid SRTM30plus_V4 (Figure 10). Point FOS-5 was determined as the point of maximum change in gradient within the base of the slope area (Figure 10).

7.3 Indicative extent of continental shelf based on selected FOS points

Foot of slope points FOS-1 and 8 generates continental shelf area beyond 200 nautical miles based on the sediment thickness criterion of article 76 paragraph 4(a)(i). The remaining six FOS points generate continental shelf area beyond 200 M based on both the sediment thickness criterion and the 60 nautical miles distance criterion of article 76 paragraphs 4(a)(i) and 4(a)(ii), respectively. The exact location of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles awaits the final analyses to be submitted to the Commission (see section 8). However, the extent of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles is indicated in a general way in Figure 5.

7.4 The Chain Ridge

The Chain Ridge is a seafloor high that extends south-south-westwards from the southern flank of the Carlsberg Ridge. To the south, it ends seaward of the Central Somali Spur. To the north, it connects morphologically with Socotra Island and the tip of the Horn of Africa via the Carlsberg Ridge (Figure 1 and Figure 2).

At the present stage, it is unclear whether the foot of the slope of the continental margin of Somalia may connect with the foot of the slope of the Chain Ridge. If that proves to be the case, it is possible that the Chain Ridge may be regarded to be part of the submarine prolongation of the landmass of Somalia. In such case, the Chain Ridge would be part of the continental margin of Somalia in accordance with article 76, paragraph 3.

Further studies and data are needed to clarify this question.

8. Description of status of preparation and intended date of making a submission

This communication takes advantage of available data from relevant intergovernmental bodies and organizations.

The utilization of the GRID data base together with the analytical support given by Mr. Brekke provides a careful documentation of minimum location of several Foot of the Slope Points and their projections, thus providing in good faith *prima facie* evidence that Somalia's continental shelf extends beyond 200 nautical miles from the normal baseline.

However, additional data collection will be necessary to provide exact information on the location of foot of the slope points. It should be pointed out that several conditions make it unfeasible or unpractical at this stage to engage into any attempts to ensure such data. These include particularly difficult security conditions in waters off the coast of Somalia, as also acknowledged by the Security Council of the United Nations, in Resolution 1851.

The Scientific and Technical Guidelines (STG) of the Commission² gives guidance to the type and quality of the data that is required to support the submission of coastal State to the Commission concerning the outer limit of its continental shelf. Chapter 9 of the STG specifies the format and recommended contents of such a submission. The STG, on the other hand, does not give any guidance to the planning and organisation of the project of preparing a submission.

The Training Manual provided by Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS)³, contains further details on how such a project may be conducted. According to this Training Manual the following steps should be taken to plan and manage a submission:

- Undertake the initial appurtenance study;
- Produce a full desktop study;
- Plan and acquire data;
- Analyse all data and produce all relevant scientific and technical documentation;
- Prepare the final submission; and
- Provide technical support to political level throughout the project cycle.

The data provided in this document shows that Somalia passes the test of appurtenance and the next natural step will be to prepare a full desktop study.

According to the Training Manual a full desktop study shall cover the following items:

- Assemble and organize all pre-existing data;
- Analyse the data according to article 76;
- Identify areas of critical value for further studies;
- Subdivide the geographical area being considered according to the applicability of the formulae and constraints provisions;
- Identify the need for further data; and
- Determine preliminary survey plans, cost estimates and recommendations for future work.

To fund activities related to preparing a submission Somalia may make an application to the *“Trust fund for the purpose of facilitating the preparation of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf for developing States, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and compliance with article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea”* (UN Trust Fund)

² Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, 1999. Scientific and technical guidelines of the commission of the continental shelf. Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea Office of Legal Affairs United Nations, document CLCS/11, 92 p.

³ Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, 2006. Training Manual for delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles and for preparation of submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

(http://www.un.org/Depts/los/clcs_new/trust_fund_article76.htm).

The UN Trust Fund does, however, not fund acquisition of data. Consequently, the full desktop study should investigate ways to secure funding for acquisition of additional data if further studies show that this is necessary for the delineation of Somalia's extended continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles.

The SRSB and the Transitional Federal Government of the Somali Republic both envisage regular reporting on progress pertaining to the above conditions. A full submission should, in their view, take place within 10 years, unless otherwise specified in light of circumstances.

9. Conclusions

The data provided in the present submission of preliminary information indicative of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles show that Somalia passes the test of appurtenance as described in the Scientific and Technical Guidelines of the Commission. The location of eight Foot of the Slope Points (FOS-points) identified on the Somali continental slope makes it clear that Somalia's continental shelf extends beyond 200 nautical miles from the normal baseline.