

Table of claims to maritime jurisdiction (as at 31 March 2004)

Introductory note: The present table of claims to maritime jurisdiction represents a review of information most recently published in the report of the Secretary General on oceans and the law of the sea ([document A/56/58](#)). It is based on national legislation and other relevant information obtained from reliable sources with a view to ensuring the most accurate representation of the status of claims. Despite extensive research and periodic review, however, the table may not always reflect the latest developments, especially those which have not been brought to the attention of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations, the publisher of the Bulletin. To report any new developments or inaccuracies regarding the status of claims, please contact the Division, Room DC2-0460, United Nations, New York, NY 10017, or send an email to: doalos@un.org.

Concerning approach, which has been adopted with respect to the information regarding the continental shelf, the following is to be noted:

The 1958 Geneva Convention defines the term "continental shelf" as: (a) the seabed and subsoil of the submarine areas adjacent to the coast but outside the area of the territorial sea, to a depth of 200 metres or, beyond that limit, to where the depth of the superjacent waters admits of the exploitation of the natural resources of the said areas; and (b) the seabed and subsoil of similar submarine areas adjacent to the coasts of islands.

Under the provisions of article 76 of the 1982 Convention, the continental shelf extends up to the outer edge of the continental margin, or up to 200 nautical miles where the outer edge does not extend up to 200 nautical miles, or up to the line of delimitation.

The table reflects the fact that, under international law,¹ the rights of a coastal State over the shelf do not depend on occupation, effective or notional, or on any express proclamation. However, in a number of cases, this provision leads to discrepancies that seem to exist between claims as reflected in the national legislation of a number of States and the entitlements of States Parties under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 (the 1982 Convention), which, pursuant to its article 311, paragraph 1, prevails, as between States Parties, over the 1958 Geneva Conventions. This is due to the fact that many national claims were originally based on the Convention on the Continental Shelf, which was adopted in Geneva on 29 April 1958 and is reflected in national legislation, and that, subsequently, the States concerned became States Parties to the 1982 Convention and did not change their legislation accordingly. Such discrepancies, however, do not affect the entitlement of coastal States to their respective continental shelves up to the limit allowed by international law.

In this connection, it has also to be noted that, under current international law of the sea and all legal aspects considered, the outer limits of the continental shelf would extend, in most cases, up to 200 nautical miles or up to the line of maritime delimitation. Regarding the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, States Parties to 1982 Convention need to submit information to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in order to seek its recommendation. A number of States Parties are in the process of preparing such submissions.

¹ Article 2, paragraph 3, of the 1958 Geneva Convention and article 77, paragraph 3, of the 1982 Convention.

STATE	UNCLOS Ratification, Accession	Does the legislation provide for straight baselines? ²	Does the State claim archipelagic status? ³	Territorial Sea	Contiguous Zone	Exclusive Economic Zone	Fisheries Zone	Continental Shelf (see introductory note): Parties to 1982 Convention or, where the State is not a party to it, parties to 1958 Convention Outer limit claims as reflected in legislation ⁴	
				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Albania	23/06/2003	Yes		12				1982 ⁵	N/A ⁶
Algeria	11/06/1996	Yes		12			32 or 52	1982	DLM
Angola	05/12/1990	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Antigua and Barbuda	02/02/1989		Yes	12	24	200		1982	CM/200 ⁷
Argentina	01/12/1995	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Australia	05/10/1994	Yes		12 ⁸	24	200		1982	CM/200
Bahamas	29/07/1983		Yes	12		200		1982	N/A
Bahrain	30/05/1985			12	24			1982	N/A
Bangladesh	27/07/2001	Yes		12	18	200		1982	CM ⁹
Barbados	12/10/1993	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A

² Including straight lines across the mouths of rivers and across the mouths of bays. The geographical coordinates of points for drawing the straight baselines may not have been necessarily established by the State concerned.

³ The geographical coordinates of points for drawing the archipelagic baselines may not yet have been necessarily established by the State concerned.

⁴ The number reflects a claim regarding the breadth of the zone (in nautical miles) as contained in national legislation – regardless of whether this legislation contains an additional specific reference to the need for delimitation of maritime boundaries with adjacent or opposite States. However, where the national legislation establishes the limits of a given zone only by reference to the delimitation of maritime boundaries with adjacent or opposite States, or to a median (equidistant) line in the absence of a maritime boundary delimitation agreement, the symbol DLM is used.

⁵ United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982.

⁶ No information regarding current legislation is available.

⁷ Outer edge of the continental margin, or to 200 nautical miles where the outer edge does not extend up to that distance.

⁸ The territorial sea boundaries between the islands of Aubusi, Boigu and Moimi and Papua New Guinea and the islands of Dauan, Kaumag and Saibai and Papua New Guinea, together with such other portion of the outer limit of the territorial sea of Saibai are determined by a treaty with Papua New Guinea. The territorial seas of the islands known as Anchor Cay, Aubusi Island, Black Rocks, Boigu Island, Bramble Cay, Dauan Island, Deliverance Island, East Cay, Kaumag Island, Kerr Islet, Moimi Island, Pearce Cay, Saibai Island, Turnagain Island and Turu Cay do not extend beyond three miles from the baselines.

⁹ Outer edge of the continental margin.

STATE	UNCLOS Ratification, Accession	Does the legislation provide for straight baselines? ²	Does the State claim archipelagic status? ³	Territorial Sea	Contiguous Zone	Exclusive Economic Zone	Fisheries Zone	Continental Shelf (see introductory note): Parties to 1982 Convention or, where the State is not a party to it, parties to 1958 Convention Outer limit claims as reflected in legislation ⁴	
				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Belgium	13/11/1998			12	24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> . ¹⁰	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> . ¹¹	1982	DLM
Belize	13/08/1983	Yes		12 ¹²		200		1982	N/A
Benin	16/10/1997			200				1982	N/A
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12/01/1994							1982	N/A
Brazil	22/12/1988	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Brunei Darussalam	05/11/1996			12		200		1982	N/A
Bulgaria	15/05/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	DLM
Cambodia		Yes		12	24	200			200
Cameroon	19/11/1985	Yes		12 ¹³		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> . ¹⁴		1982	CM/200
Canada	07/11/2003	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Cape Verde	10/08/1987		Yes	12	24	200		1982	200
Chile	25/08/1997	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
China	07/06/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200

¹⁰ Defined by coordinates of points.

¹¹ Coterminous with the exclusive economic zone.

¹² Three-mile limit applies from the mouth of Sarstoon River to Ranguana Caye.

¹³ See article 45 of Law 96-06 of 18 January 1996 on the revision of the Constitution of 2 June 1972.

¹⁴ No legislation available. See ICJ Judgment of 10 October 2002 in the Case concerning the land and maritime boundary between Cameroon and Nigeria.

STATE	UNCLOS Ratification, Accession	Does the legislation provide for straight baselines? ²	Does the State claim archipelagic status? ³	Territorial Sea	Contiguous Zone	Exclusive Economic Zone	Fisheries Zone	Continental Shelf (see introductory note): Parties to 1982 Convention or, where the State is not a party to it, parties to 1958 Convention Outer limit claims as reflected in legislation ⁴	
				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Colombia		Yes		12		200		1958 ¹⁵	Limits not specified.
Comoros	21/06/1994		Yes	12		200		1982	N/A
Congo				200					N/A
Cook Islands	15/02/1995			12		200		1982	CM/200
Costa Rica	21/09/1992	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
Côte d'Ivoire	26/03/1984	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
Croatia	05/04/1995	Yes		12		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¹⁶		1982	DLM
Cuba	15/08/1984	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Cyprus	12/12/1988	Yes		12	24	200		1982	EXPL. ¹⁷
Democratic People's Republic of Korea				12	X ¹⁸	200			N/A
Democratic Republic of the Congo	17/02/1989			12		DLM		1982	N/A
Denmark		Yes		12 ¹⁹		200	200 ²⁰	1958	200m/EXPL. ²¹

¹⁵ Convention on the Continental Shelf, Geneva, 29 April 1958.

¹⁶ The Decision on the Extension of the Jurisdiction of the Republic of Croatia in the Adriatic Sea of 3 October 2003 proclaimed only certain elements of the EEZ. The implementation of the legal regime of the “ecological and fisheries protection zone” of Croatia commences twelve months after its establishment.

¹⁷ Depth of exploitability.

¹⁸ 50-nautical mile military zone. Army Command Announcement of 1 August 1977.

¹⁹ Act No. 200 of 7 April 1999 on the delimitation of the territorial sea does not apply to the Faroe Islands and Greenland but may become effective by Royal Decree for those parts of the Kingdom of Denmark with the amendments dictated by the special conditions prevailing in the Faroe Islands and Greenland. As far as Greenland is concerned, the outer limit of the external territorial waters may be measured at a distance shorter than 12 nautical miles from the baselines.

STATE	UNCLOS Ratification, Accession	Does the legislation provide for straight baselines? ²	Does the State claim archipelagic status? ³	Territorial Sea	Contiguous Zone	Exclusive Economic Zone	Fisheries Zone	Continental Shelf (see introductory note): Parties to 1982 Convention or, where the State is not a party to it, parties to 1958 Convention Outer limit claims as reflected in legislation ⁴	
				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Djibouti	08/10/1991	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Dominica	24/10/1991	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Dominican Republic		Yes		6	24	200			CM/200
Ecuador		Yes		200 ²²					200 ²³
Egypt	26/08/1983	Yes		12	24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²⁴		1982	N/A
El Salvador				200					N/A
Equatorial Guinea	21/07/1997	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
Eritrea				12		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²⁵			N/A
Estonia		Yes		12 ²⁶		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ²⁷			Defined by coordinates
Fiji	10/12/1982		Yes	12		200		1982	200m/EXPL.
Finland	21/06/1996	Yes		12 ²⁸	14 ²⁹		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ³⁰	1982	200m/EXPL.

²⁰ For Greenland and Faroe Islands.

²¹ 200m - depth of 200 metres.

²² Only between the continental territorial sea of Ecuador and its insular territorial sea around the Galápagos Islands.

²³ Also 100 nautical miles from isobath 2,500m (Only between the continental territorial sea of Ecuador and its insular territorial sea around the Galápagos Islands).

²⁴ In March 2003, Cyprus and Egypt signed an agreement on the delimitation of their respective exclusive economic zones.

²⁵ The exclusive economic zone has been delimited in arbitration Eritrea-Yemen, Award in phase II: Maritime delimitation.

²⁶ In some parts of the Gulf of Finland, defined by coordinates.

²⁷ Defined by coordinates.

STATE	UNCLOS Ratification, Accession	Does the legislation provide for straight baselines? ²	Does the State claim archipelagic status? ³	Territorial Sea	Contiguous Zone	Exclusive Economic Zone	Fisheries Zone	Continental Shelf (see introductory note): Parties to 1982 Convention or, where the State is not a party to it, parties to 1958 Convention Outer limit claims as reflected in legislation ⁴	
				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
France	11/04/1996	Yes		12	24	200 ³¹		1982	200m/EXPL.
Gabon	11/03/1998	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Gambia	22/05/1984			12	18		200	1982	N/A
Georgia ³²	21/03/1996			12		DLM		1982	DLM
Germany	14/10/1994	Yes		12		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ³³		1982	200m/EXPL.
Ghana	07/06/1983			12	24	200		1982	200
Greece	21/07/1995			6 ³⁴				1982	200m/EXPL.
Grenada	25/04/1991	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
Guatemala	11/02/1997			12		200		1982	Limits not specified.
Guinea	06/09/1985			12		200		1982	N/A

²⁸ Extends, with certain exceptions, to 12 nautical miles, unless defined by geographical coordinates. In the Gulf of Finland, the outer limit of the territorial sea shall at no place be closer to the midline than 3 nautical miles, according to the Act amending the Act on the Limits of the Territorial Waters of Finland (981/95).

²⁹ Two miles beyond the outer limits of the territorial sea.

³⁰ Defined by coordinates.

³¹ Applies to the North Sea, the English Channel and the Atlantic Ocean from the Franco-Belgian border to the Franco-Spanish border, Saint Pierre and Miquelon, French Guiana, Réunion, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, French Southern and Antarctic Lands, Wallis and Futuna, Tromelin, Glorioso, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassad da India Islands, Clipperton Island, Mayotte, Guadeloupe and Martinique.

³² Law on Maritime Spaces of Georgia, 1999, incorporates UNCLOS provision. The English translation is not yet available. However, the Protocol between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of Georgia on the Confirmation of the Maritime Boundaries between them in the Black Sea, 14 July 1997 refers to the agreements concluded between the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Turkey relating to the establishment of the maritime boundaries in the Black Sea, concerning the delimitation of the territorial sea and the continental shelf, and confirming that the exclusive economic zone delimitation should be based on the previously delimited continental shelf frontier.

³³ Defined by coordinates.

³⁴ Ten-mile limit applies for the purpose of regulating civil aviation.

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				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Guinea-Bissau	25/08/1986	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
Guyana	16/11/1993	Yes		12		200		1982	CM/200
Haiti	31/07/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	EXPL.
Honduras	05/10/1993	Yes		12	24	200		1982	Limits not specified.
Iceland	21/06/1985	Yes		12		200		1982	CM/200
India	29/06/1995			12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Indonesia	03/02/1986		Yes	12		200		1982	N/A
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		Yes		12	24	DLM			DLM
Iraq	30/07/1985			12				1982	Limits not specified.
Ireland	21/06/1996	Yes		12			200	1982	Defined by coordinates
Israel				12				1958	EXPL.
Italy	13/01/1995	Yes		12				1982	200m/EXPL.
Jamaica	21/03/1983		Yes	12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Japan	20/06/1996	Yes		12 ³⁵	24	200		1982	CM/200
Jordan	27/11/1995			3				1982	N/A

³⁵ Three-mile limit applies to the Soya Strait, the Tsugaru Strait, the eastern and western channels of the Tsushima Strait and the Osumi Straits only.

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				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Kenya	02/03/1989	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
Kiribati	24/02/2003	Yes	Yes	12		200		1982	N/A
Kuwait	02/05/1986			12				1982	Defined by coordinates
Latvia		Yes		12		DLM		1958	CM/200
Lebanon	05/01/1995			12				1982	N/A
Liberia				200					N/A
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya				12					N/A
Lithuania	12/11/2003	Yes		12		DLM		1982	N/A
Madagascar	22/08/2001	Yes		12	24	200		1982	200 ³⁶
Malaysia	14/10/1996			12		200		1982	200m/EXPL.
Maldives	07/09/2000		Yes	12	24	200		1982	N/A
Malta	20/05/1993	Yes		12	24		25	1982	200m/EXPL.
Marshall Islands	09/08/1991		Yes	12	24	200		1982	N/A
Mauritania	17/07/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Mauritius	04/11/1994	Yes		12		200		1982	CM/200
Mexico	18/03/1983	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Micronesia (Federated States of)	29/04/1991			12		200		1982	N/A

³⁶ 200 nautical miles or delimitation agreement or 100 nautical miles from isobath 2,500m.

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				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Monaco	20/03/1996			12				1982	N/A
Morocco		Yes		12	24	200			200m/EXPL.
Mozambique	13/03/1997	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Myanmar	21/05/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Namibia	18/04/1983			12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Nauru	23/01/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Netherlands	28/06/1996	Yes		12		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ³⁷		1982	200m/EXPL.
New Zealand	19/07/1996	Yes		12 ³⁸	24	200 ³⁹		1982	CM/200
Nicaragua	03/05/2000			12	24	200		1982	CM
Nigeria	14/08/1986			12		200		1982	200m/EXPL.
Niue				12		200			N/A
Norway	24/06/1996	Yes		12	24	200	200 ⁴⁰	1982	CM/200
Oman	17/08/1989	Yes		12	24	200		1982	Limits not specified.
Pakistan	26/02/1997	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200

³⁷ Defined by coordinates of points.

³⁸ Includes Tokelau.

³⁹ Includes Tokelau.

⁴⁰ Jan Mayen and Svalbard.

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				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Palau	30/09/1996			3			200	1982	N/A
Panama	01/07/1996			12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Papua New Guinea	14/01/1997		Yes	12 ⁴¹			200	1982	200m/EXPL.
Peru				200 ⁴²					200
Philippines	08/05/1984		Yes	X ⁴³		200		1982	EXPL.
Poland	13/11/1998	Yes		12		DLM		1982	N/A
Portugal	03/11/1997	Yes		12	24	200		1982	EXPL.
Qatar	09/12/2002			12	24	DLM		1982	N/A
Republic of Korea	29/01/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Romania	17/12/1996	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A
Russian Federation	12/03/1997	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Saint Kitts and Nevis	07/01/1993	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Saint Lucia	27/03/1985			12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	01/10/1993		Yes	12	24	200		1982	N/A
Samoa	14/08/1995	Yes		12	24	200		1982	N/A

⁴¹ Three nautical miles in certain areas.

⁴² Called “Maritime Dominion” in article 54 of the 1993 Constitution: “...In its maritime dominion, Peru exercises sovereignty and jurisdiction, without prejudice to the freedoms of international communication, in accordance with the law and the treaties ratified by the State...”

⁴³ Rectangle defined by coordinates. Claim extends beyond 12 nautical miles.

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				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Sao Tome and Principe	03/11/1987		Yes	12		200		1982	N/A
Saudi Arabia	24/04/1996	Yes		12	18			1982	Limits not specified.
Senegal	25/10/1984	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Serbia and Montenegro	12/03/2001	Yes		12				1982	DLM
Seychelles	16/09/1991		Yes	12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Sierra Leone	12/12/1994			12	24	200		1982	200
Singapore	17/11/1994			3				1982	N/A
Slovenia	16/06/1995							1982	N/A
Solomon Islands	23/06/1997		Yes	12		200		1982	200
Somalia	24/07/1989	Yes		200				1982	N/A
South Africa	23/12/1997	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Spain	15/01/1997	Yes		12	24	200 ⁴⁴	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁴⁵	1982	N/A
Sri Lanka	19/07/1994	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Sudan	23/01/1985	Yes		12	18			1982	200m/EXPL.
Suriname	09/07/1998			12		200		1982	N/A
Sweden	25/06/1996	Yes		12		DLM		1982	200m/EXPL.

⁴⁴ In the Atlantic Ocean.

⁴⁵ In the Mediterranean Sea, defined by coordinates of points.

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				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
Syrian Arab Republic		Yes		12	24	200			CM
Thailand		Yes		12	24	200		1958	N/A
Timor-Leste				12	24	200			CM/200
Togo	16/04/1985			30		200		1982	N/A
Tonga	02/08/1995	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
Trinidad and Tobago	25/04/1986		Yes	12	24	200		1982	200m/EXPL.
Tunisia	24/04/1985	Yes		12	24		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ⁴⁶	1982	N/A
Turkey				6 ⁴⁷		200 ⁴⁸			N/A
Tuvalu	09/12/2002		Yes	12	24	200		1982	N/A
Ukraine	26/07/1999	Yes		12		200		1982	N/A
United Arab Emirates		Yes		12	24	200			CM/200
United Kingdom	25/07/1997	Yes		12 ⁴⁹		200 ⁵⁰	200or 12 ⁵¹	1982	Defined by coordinates.

⁴⁶ Up to 50-m isobath - Off the Gulf of Gabès.

⁴⁷ Six nautical miles in the Aegean Sea, 12 nautical miles in the Black Sea.

⁴⁸ In the Black Sea.

⁴⁹ Also three nautical miles. (Three nautical miles in Anguilla, Guernsey, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Gibraltar, Monserrat and Pitcairn; 12 nautical miles in United Kingdom, Jersey, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Isle of Man, St. Helena and Dependencies, South Georgia, South Sandwich Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands.)

⁵⁰ Bermuda, Pitcairn, South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

⁵¹ 12 nautical miles in Guernsey; 200 nautical miles in United Kingdom, Anguilla, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Monserrat, St. Helena and Dependencies, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

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				Breadth of the zone in nautical miles ⁴				Party to:	Outer limit
United Republic of Tanzania	30/09/1985			12		200		1982	N/A
United States of America				12	24	200 ⁵²		1958	CM/200
Uruguay	10/12/1992	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM
Vanuatu	10/08/1999	Yes	Yes	12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Venezuela		Yes		12	15	200		1958	200m/EXPL.
Viet Nam	25/07/1994	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200
Yemen	21/07/1987	Yes		12	24	200		1982	CM/200

⁵² Includes Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, Johnstoll Atoll, Palmyra Atoll, Midway Island, Wake Island, Jarvis Island, Kingman Reef, Howland Island, Baker Island, Northern Marianas, and Navassa Island.