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2 March 2022

**United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
concluded at Montego Bay, Jamaica
on 10 December 1982**

Receipt of the partial Submission made by the Republic of Chile
to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
in respect of the Western Continental Shelf of the Chilean Antarctic Territory

The Secretary-General of the United Nations communicates the following:

On 28 February 2022, the Republic of Chile submitted to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 8, of the Convention, information on the limits of its continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of its territorial sea is measured in respect of the Western Continental Shelf of the Chilean Antarctic Territory.

It is noted that the Convention entered into force for Chile on 24 September 1997. It is also noted that, on 8 May 2009, Chile had submitted preliminary information regarding its continental shelf pursuant to the *Decision regarding the workload of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and the ability of States, particularly developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 4 of annex II to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as well as the decision contained in SPLOS/72, paragraph (a)*, adopted by the eighteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention (SPLOS/183).

According to Chile, this is a partial submission. Also, according to Chile:

“In 2004 the seven States that assert rights of or claims to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica, Argentina, Australia, Chile, France, New Zealand, Norway and the United Kingdom, agreed that, while it is open to them to submit information to the Commission with regard to the outer limits of the continental shelf appurtenant to Antarctica, they will request the Commission not to take action for the time being with regard to the information contained in the respective submissions.

Chile recalls the principles and objectives shared by the Antarctic Treaty and the United Nations Convention [on] the Law of the Sea, and the importance of the Antarctic system and the Convention working in harmony and thereby ensuring the continuing peaceful cooperation, security and stability in the Antarctic area.

Chile notes also the relevant provisions of the Convention, including its Article 77, which provides inter alia that the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf do not depend on any express proclamation, and recalls the decisions of Meetings of the States Parties to the Convention and the rules of the Commission.

Chile has regard to the circumstances of the area south of 60 degrees South latitude and the special legal and political status of Antarctica under the provisions of the Antarctic Treaty, including its Article IV, and notes that appurtenant to Antarctica there exist areas of continental shelf the extent of which has yet to be defined. It is open to the States concerned to submit information to the Commission which would not be examined by it for the time being, or to make a partial submission not including such areas of continental shelf, for which a submission may be made later, notwithstanding the provisions regarding the ten-year period established by Article 4 of Annex II to the Convention and the subsequent decision on its application taken by the Eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention.

Consistent with the first option, Chile requests the Commission in accordance with its rules not to take any action for the time being with regard to the information in this submission that relates to the Western Continental Shelf appurtenant to the Chilean Antarctic Territory.

Chile reserves its rights with regard to the Eastern Continental Shelf of the Chilean Antarctic Territory, which will be determined in a future partial submission.”

In accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission, the present communication is being circulated to all Member States of the United Nations, as well as States Parties to the Convention, in order to make public the executive summary of the partial Submission, including all illustrative maps and coordinates contained therein. The executive summary of the Submission is available on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, Office of Legal Affairs, at: www.un.org/Depts/los.

The consideration of the partial Submission made by Chile will be included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, scheduled to be held in New York between July and August 2022.

Upon completion of the consideration of the Submission, the Commission will issue recommendations pursuant to article 76 of the Convention.

