



PERMANENT MISSION OF ICELAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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The Permanent Mission of Iceland to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to his communication of 25 May 2005 (Continental Shelf Notification CLCS.04.2005.LOS) regarding receipt of the submission made by Ireland to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, has the honour to submit the following observations by the Government of Iceland.

According to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, to which both Iceland and Ireland are Parties, including its Annex II, and the Rules of Procedure of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, in particular Annex I thereto, the actions of the Commission shall not prejudice matters relating to delimitation of boundaries between States with opposite or adjacent coasts.

According to the executive summary of the submission made by Ireland, it is a partial submission in accordance with paragraph 3 of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, which reads as follows: "A submission may be made by a coastal State for a portion of its continental shelf in order not to prejudice questions relating to the delimitation of boundaries between States in any other portion or portions of the 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."

According to the quotation in the Secretary-General's communication, in the view of the Government of Ireland, "this portion of [the] shelf is not the subject of any dispute" and "... consideration [of the submission] by the Commission will not prejudice matters relating to the delimitation of boundaries between Ireland and any other States".

It is the position of the Government of Iceland that the submission made by Ireland and any recommendations by the Commission are without prejudice to any future submission made by Iceland with respect to the continental shelf in the Hatton-Rockall area and to the delimitation of the continental shelf in that area between Iceland and Ireland.

The Permanent Mission of Iceland 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.

Permanent Mission of Iceland
New York, 24 August 2005



United Nations Secretariat
Secretary-General
New York, NY