

*Permanent Mission of Portugal
to the United Nations*

ONU/2009/134

The Permanent Mission of Portugal to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, referring to his communication of 14 May 2009 (CLCS/40/Rev.1/09) (Continental Shelf Delimitation) concerning receipt of the submission made by the Kingdom of Spain to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, has the honour to submit the following observations by the Portuguese Government:

In accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, to which both Portugal and Spain are Parties, including its Annex II, and the Rules of Procedure of the Commission on the Continental Shelf (CLCS/40/Rev.1) in particular, Annex I thereto, the actions of the Commission shall not prejudice future negotiations delimitation of boundaries between States with opposite or adjacent coasts.

The Portuguese Government has no objection to the Commission considering and making recommendations on Spain's submission relating to the Galicia Bank Region to the extent that such recommendations, in accordance with article 76, paragraph 10, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, are without prejudice to the future delimitation of the continental shelf between Portugal and Spain.

The Permanent Mission of Portugal 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.



New York, 28 May, 2009