

Preliminary Information  
Indicative of the Outer Limits of the  
Continental Shelf  
and  
Description of the status of preparation  
for making a submission  
to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental  
Shelf  
for  
THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA



## Table of Contents

1.	Introduction .....	3
2.	Assistance and advice received during the preparation of this document.....	5
3.	Outer limit of the continental shelf of the Republic of The Gambia ± Baselines.....	6
4.	Provisions of article 76 invoked in support of this document.....	6
5.	General description of the Northwest African continental margin off the coast of the Republic of The Gambia.....	6
6.	Maritime delimitations and other issues.....	7
7.	Preliminary information indicative of outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 M.....	9
	7.1 Existing database.....	9
	7.2 Foot of the continental slope points.....	10
	7.2.1 FOS1.....	10
	7.3 Indicative extent of continental shelf based on selected FOS points.....	10
8.	Description of status of preparation and intended date of making a submission.....	11
9.	Conclusions.....	13
	Appendix.....	14

1. Introduction

The Republic of The Gambia DOVR FDOOHG ratified the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, hereinafter referred to as the Convention R Q May 1984. T



shelf beyond 200 nautical miles to be submitted to the Secretary in accordance with SPLOS/183 before 13 May 2009. The Norwegian Government responded positively to this request for assistance in line with their development cooperation strategy.

2.

### 3. Outer limit of the continental shelf of the Republic of The Gambia ± Baselines

The present Preliminary information on the outer limit of the continental shelf of the Gambia was assessed with reference to the low water mark. However by virtue of the provisions of the Territorial Sea and Contiguous zone Act 1968 of the Republic of The Gambia, and an amended version of the same Act of 1969, the normal baseline for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea is the low water mark along the Coastline.

In view of the above and in connection with this document all measurements were carried out based on the World Vector Shoreline as an approximation of this normal baseline.

The Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone Act, 1968 as amended by the Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone (Amendment) Act, 1969 defines:

#### Territorial sea

1. Gambia shall extend for a distance of twelve nautical miles from the low water mark and any reference "The Gambia" whatsoever or wheresoever made shall be deemed in the absence of a contrary intention to include the territorial sea of The Gambia.

#### Contiguous zone

2. It is hereby declared that Her Majesty in right of Her Government of The Gambia may in the zone of the high seas contiguous to the territorial sea of The Gambia and extending seaward to a line 18 nautical miles from the low water mark exercise control necessary to prevent and punish the infringement of any law or right of The Gambia.

#### "Territorial waters" considered as "territorial sea"

3. Any reference in any law in force in The Gambia to "territorial waters" shall be construed as if it were a reference to "territorial sea".

### 4. Provisions of article 76 invoked in support of this document

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 the 200 M.

### 5. General description of the Northwest African continental margin off the coast of the Republic of The Gambia

The geology offshore the Republic of The Gambia is dominated by Mauritania



Have concluded between them the present Treaty fixing the maritime boundaries between the Republic of Senegal and Republic of The Gambia according to the following provisions

#### Article 1

The maritime boundary to the North commences from the point of intersection of the land boundary with the coast and follows the parallel of latitude 13° 35' 36" North.

#### Article 2

The maritime boundary to the South commences from the point T of intersection of the land boundary situated to the South of the River Allahein (or San Pedro) with the coast and of which the coordinates are:

Latitude: 13° 03' 51" North;  
Longitude: 16° 44' 49" West.

From point T the maritime boundary proceeds in a southerly direction as far as point M of which the coordinates are:

Latitude: 13° 01' 21" North;  
Longitude: 16° 45' 19" West.

From point M, the maritime frontier proceeds in a northerly direction as far as point P of which the coordinates are:

Latitude: 13° 03' 27" North;  
Longitude: 16° 45' 22" West.

From point P, the maritime frontier follows the parallel of latitude 13° 03' 27" North.

#### Article 3

The boundaries defined in articles 1 and 2 have been delimited on the basis of the French Chart No. 619 (in )-ch Chart Fren499[(F)6(re)7(n)-BT 1 0 0 1 265.85 511.51 Tm [(F



The Republic of The Gambia is ready to enter into consultations with the Republic of Cape Verde and the Republic of Senegal with a view to reach an agreement which will allow the Commission to consider and make recommendations on submissions by three coastal States in any ~~at~~ that may come under dispute without prejudice to the final delimitation of the continental shelf concluded subsequently in these areas by the Republic of The Gambia, the Republic of Cape Verde and the Republic of Senegal.

#### 7. Preliminary information indicative of outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 M

In accordance with SPLOS/183 op.p. 1 (a), this submission seeks to document that at least one Foot of the Slope point (FOS point) has a location that makes it clear that the 5 H S X E O L F R I 7 K H \* D P E L D ¶ V F R Q W L Q H Q W D O V K H O I H [ W (see Chapter 3 for definition of baseline in this document).

In the light of limited scientific data available, no final conclusion is made regarding the most appropriate location of the base of the continental slope of the Republic of The Gambia at this stage. Rather it is found prudent, based on available data, to document at least the minimum extent of the continental shelf in one selected key area providing prima facie evidence that FOS points may at least be located in certain areas, if not further offshore.

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 subsequent FOS point and its projected preliminary outer limit points are submitted as part of the preliminary information. These may be subject to further revision.

##### 7.1 Existing database

Figures 2 and 3 show track lines for bathymetric and seismic data that has been available for analyses to determine if the Republic of The Gambia meets the criteria for an extended continental shelf beyond the 200 M (test of appurtenance).

Most of the available bathymetric and seismic data is sourced from the Geophysical Data System (Geodas) of NOAA National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) in Colorado. However, for the purpose of this document, the following satellite derived bathymetric grids have been used: SRTM30plusV4 and ETOPO1. To determine the Thickness of the World's Oceans & Marginal Seas (provided by: World Data Center for Geophysics & Marine Geology, Boulder) was used as an approximation for sediment thickness.

All data are assembled, reformatted and provided by the One Stop Data (OSD) - Arendal, [www.continentalshelf.org](http://www.continentalshelf.org)

The analyses of data were done in the Geocap software utilizing the UNCLOS Module ([www.geocap.no](http://www.geocap.no)) Methods used are documented in the software documentation.

7.2 Foot of the continental shelf (continental shelf) - 8 (continental shelf) - 3a s 0 1 134.66

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

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

The utilization of GRID\$ UHQGDO ¶ V JOREDO SXEOLF PDULQH JHR a careful documentation of the aforementioned FOS point thus providing a HYLGHQFH WKDW WKH 5HSXEOLF extends beyond the 200 ¶ FRQ from the baseline (see Chapter 3 for definition of baseline in this document).

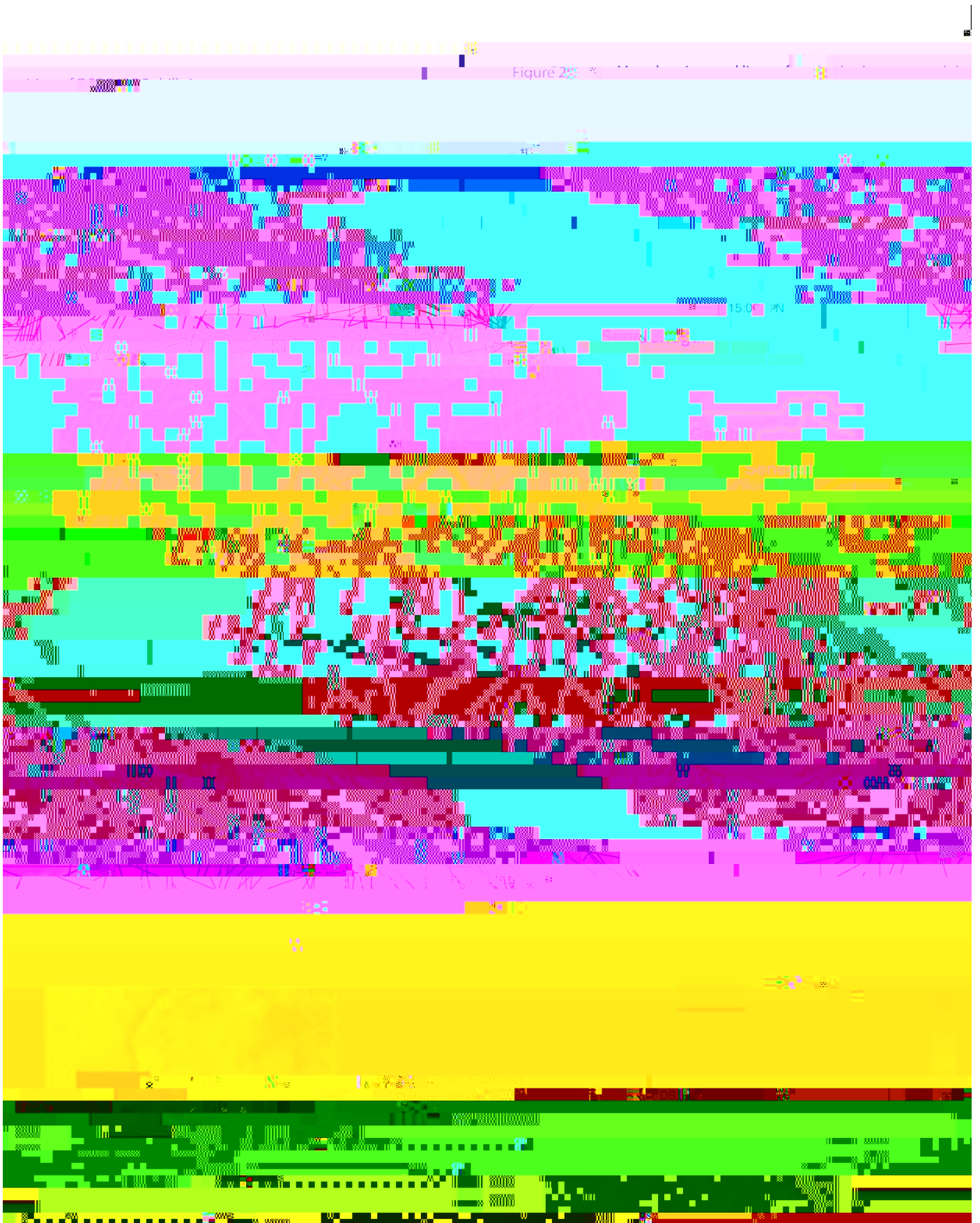
However, additional data collection may be necessary to provide exact information on the location of FOS points. It should be pointed out that relevant conditions make it unfeasible or unpractical at this stage to engage into any attempts to acquire such data.

The Scientific and Technical Guidelines (STG) of the Commission gives guidance to















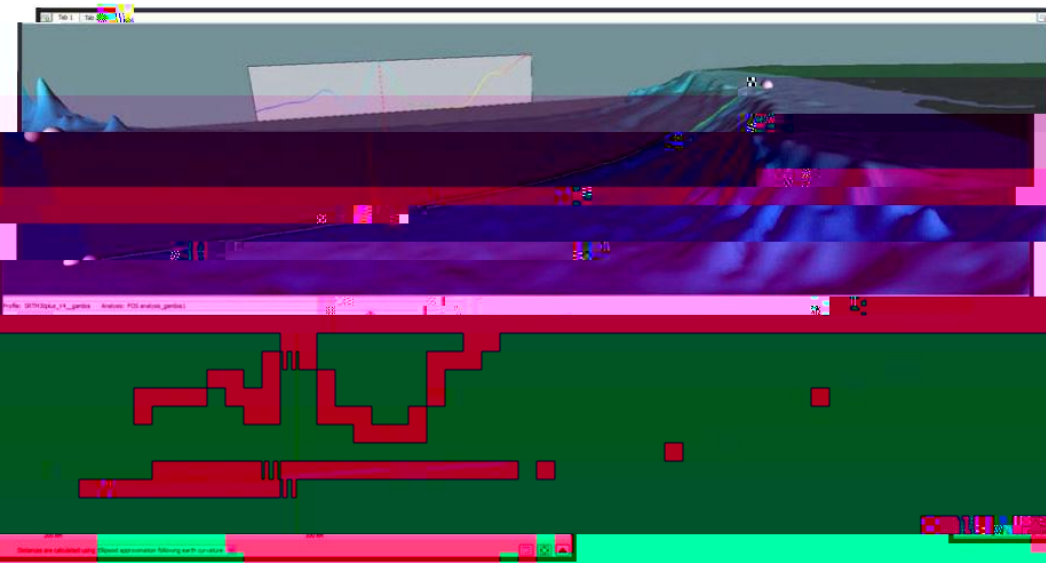


Figure 5: Analysis for potential bathymetry

POS-1" at the base of the continental slope, based on the synthetic bathymetry profile extracted from the satellite derived bathymetry data (SRIM30plus V4 (lower panel)). The top panel shows the profile extracted from east towards west, including the change in slope at the base of a slope, based on the 2nd derivative of the slope (red dotted line in lower panel).

Regard to the use of the 2nd derivative of the slope to identify the change in slope at the base of a slope, the following figure shows the results of the analysis.

The figure shows the profile extracted from east towards west, including the change in slope at the base of a slope, based on the 2nd derivative of the slope (red dotted line in lower panel).

