

**Royal Decree of 7 June 1963 concerning the exercise of  
Danish sovereignty over the Continental Shelf**

**Article 1**

Danish sovereignty shall be exercised, in so far as the exploration and exploitation of natural resources are concerned, over that portion of the continental shelf which, according to the Convention on the Continental Shelf which was opened for signature at Geneva on 29 April 1958 (hereinafter referred to as the "Convention"), belongs to the Kingdom of Denmark, cf. article 2.

**Article 2**

1. In accordance with article 1 of the Convention, the term "continental shelf" is used as referring (a) to the sea-bed 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; (b) to the sea-bed and subsoil of similar submarine areas adjacent to the coasts of islands.
2. The boundary of the continental shelf in relation to foreign States whose coasts are opposite the coasts of the Kingdom of Denmark or are adjacent to Denmark shall be determined in accordance with article 6 of the Convention, that is to say in the absence of special agreement, the boundary is the median line, every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points of the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of each State is measured.
3. The Ministry of Public Works may, if necessary, cause official charts to be prepared on which the boundary line shall be entered.

**Article 3**

The exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of the continental shelf referred to in article 1 may be effected only by virtue of a concession granted in pursuance of Act No.181 of 8 May 1950 concerning prospecting for and exploitation of raw materials in the subsoil of the Kingdom of Denmark or of Royal Order No.153 of 27 April 1935 concerning the exploitation of raw materials in the soil of Greenland.