

**Petroleum Decree No. 51 of 1969**

...

14. (1) In this Decree, unless the context otherwise requires:

...

"Continental shelf" means the sea-bed and subsoil of those submarine areas adjacent to the coast of Nigeria the surface of which lies at a depth no greater than two hundred metres (or, where its natural resources are capable of exploitation, at any depth) below the surface of the sea, excluding so much of those areas as lies below the territorial waters of Nigeria.

...

"Explore", in relation to petroleum, means to make a preliminary search by surface geological and geophysical methods, including aerial surveys but excluding drilling below three hundred feet.

...

"Prospect", in relation to petroleum, means search for by all geological and geophysical methods, including drilling and seismic operations.

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