

Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations

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The Permanent Mission of France presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat — Office of Legal Affairs — and has the honour to refer to the submission of the Government of the Republic of Suriname to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, made on 5 December 2008, pursuant to article 76, paragraph 8, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, regarding the delineation of the outer limits of its continental shelf.

The Permanent Mission has the honour to recall that France itself made a partial submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, on 22 May 2007, pursuant to article 76, paragraph 8, of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, in respect of the areas of French Guiana and New Caledonia. France indicated therein that the continental shelf of French Guiana was not the subject of any dispute between itself and any other State. It confirms that negotiations between France and Suriname regarding the delimitation of their maritime boundary are ongoing.

The Permanent Mission takes note of the Declaration of the Government of the Republic of Suriname, pursuant to article 76, paragraph 10, of the Convention, according to which the submission of Suriname does not prejudice the delimitation of the maritime boundary between France and Suriname. On this basis, it confirms that France has no objection to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf addressing its recommendations to Suriname with regard to the delineation of the outer limits of the continental shelf as long as those recommendations do not prejudice the definitive delimitation of the continental shelf between France and Suriname, for which negotiations are presently ongoing between the two States.

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations takes this opportunity to present to the United Nations Secretariat — Office of Legal Affairs — the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

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