

No. 7302. CONVENTION ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF. DONE AT GENEVA, ON 29 APRIL 1958¹

ACCESSION

Instrument deposited on :

14 June 1965

FRANCE

(To take effect on 14 July 1965.)

In the above-mentioned instrument, the Government of France has declared the following :

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

In depositing this instrument of accession, the Government of the French Republic declares :

Article 1

In the view of the Government of the French Republic, the expression "adjacent" areas implies a notion of geophysical, geological and geographical dependence which *ipso facto* rules out an unlimited extension of the continental shelf.

Article 2 (paragraph 4)

The Government of the French Republic considers that the expression "living organisms belonging to sedentary species" must be interpreted as excluding crustaceans, with the exception of the species of crab termed "barnacle"; and it makes the following reservations :

Article 4

The Government of the French Republic accepts this article only on condition that the coastal State claiming that the measures it intends to take are "reasonable" agrees that if their reasonableness is contested it shall be determined by arbitration.

Article 5 (paragraph 1)

The Government of the French Republic accepts the provisions of article 5, paragraph 1, with the following reservations :

(a) An essential element which should serve as the basis for appreciating any "interference" with the conservation of the living resources of the sea, resulting from the exploitation of the continental shelf, particularly in breeding areas for the maintenance of stocks, shall be the technical report of the international scientific bodies responsible

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 499, p. 311; Vol. 505, p. 348; Vol. 510, p. 341; Vol. 523, p. 344, and Vol. 525.

for the conservation of the living resources of the sea in the areas specified respectively in article 1 of the Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries of 8 February 1949 and article 1 of the Convention for the Northeast Atlantic Fisheries of 24 January 1959.

(b) Any restrictions placed on the exercise of acquired fishing rights in waters above the continental shelf shall give rise to a right to compensation.

(c) It must be possible to establish by means of arbitration, if the matter is contested, whether the exploration of the continental shelf and the exploitation of its natural resources result in an interference with the other activities protected by article 5, paragraph 1, which is "unjustifiable".

Article 6 (paragraphs 1 and 2)

In the absence of a specific agreement, the Government of the French Republic will not accept that any boundary of the continental shelf determined by application of the principle of equidistance shall be invoked against it :

— if such boundary is calculated from baselines established after 29 April 1958;

— if it extends beyond the 200-metre isobath;

— if it lies in areas where, in the Government's opinion, there are "special circumstances" within the meaning of article 6, paragraphs 1 and 2, that is to say : the Bay of Biscay, the Bay of Granville, and the sea areas of the Straits of Dover and of the North Sea off the French coast.

OBJECTION to reservation made upon signature by Iran with respect to article 4

Notification received on :

14 June 1965

FRANCE
