

# **Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea**

1973-1982

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Document:-

**A/CONF.62/C.2/L.31/Rev.1**

## **Japan: revised draft article on the continental shelf**

Extract from the *Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Volume III (Documents of the Conference, First and Second Sessions)*

5. In the case of atolls or of islands having fringing reefs, the baseline for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea shall be the seaward edge of the reef, as shown on official charts.

[These provisions are intended to be without prejudice to the question of the delimitation of island ocean space as between adjacent or opposite States, or in other special circumstances. Nor do they purport to deal with the régime of islands applicable to an archipelagic State or to the off-lying archipelago of a coastal State, or the case of a fringe of islands along a coast in its immediate vicinity referred to in article 4, paragraph 1, of the 1958 Geneva Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone.]<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 516, p. 206.

## B. TERRITORIES UNDER FOREIGN DOMINATION OR CONTROL

In respect of a territory whose people have attained neither full independence nor some other self-governing status following an act of self-determination under the auspices of the United Nations, the rights to the resources of the economic zone created in respect of that territory and to the resources of its continental shelf are vested in the inhabitants of that territory to be exercised by them for their benefit and in accordance with their needs and requirements. Such rights may not be assumed, exercised or profited from or in any way infringed by a metropolitan or foreign power administering or occupying that territory.

## DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/C.2/L.31/Rev.1

### Japan: revised draft article on the continental shelf

[Original: English]  
[16 August 1974]

1. The coastal State exercises sovereign rights over the continental shelf (the coastal sea-bed area) for the purpose of exploring it and exploiting its mineral resources.
2. The outer limit of the continental shelf (the coastal sea-bed area) shall not exceed a maximum distance of 200 nautical miles from the baseline for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea as set out in . . .
3. (a) Where the coasts of two or more States are adjacent or opposite to each other, the delimitation of the boundary of the continental shelf (the coastal sea-bed area) appertaining to such States shall be determined by agreement between them, taking into account the principle of equidistance.  
(b) Failing such agreement, no State is entitled to extend its sovereign rights over the continental shelf (the coastal sea-bed area) beyond the median line, every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points of the baselines, continental or insular, from which the breadth of the territorial sea of each State is measured.
4. Nothing provided herein shall prejudice the existing agreements between the coastal States concerned relating to the delimitation of the boundary of their respective continental shelf (coastal sea-bed area).

## DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/C.2/L.32

### Greece: draft articles on the exclusive economic zone beyond the territorial sea

[Original: English]  
[31 July 1974]

#### Article . . .

The provisions applicable for the determination of the economic zone of a State are as a general rule applicable to its islands.

#### Article . . .

1. Where the coasts of two or more States are adjacent or opposite to each other and the distance between them is less than double the uniform breadth provided in this Convention, the delimitation of their economic zones and of their sea-bed areas shall be determined by agreement among themselves.
2. Failing such agreement, no State is entitled to extend its rights over an economic zone and sea-bed area beyond the limits of the median line every point of which is equidistant from the nearest points of the baselines, continental or insular, from which the breadth of the above areas of each of the two States is measured.