Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea

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Turkey: draft article on the territorial sea: breadth of the territorial sea, global or regional criteria, open seas and oceans, semi-enclosed seas and enclosed seas

Extract from the Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, Volume V (Summary Records, Plenary, General Committee, First, Second and Third Committees, as well as Documents of the Conference, Fourth Session)

DOCUMENTS OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/C.2/L.90

Turkey: draft article on the territorial sea: breadth of the territorial sea, global or regional criteria, open seas and oceans, semi-enclosed seas and enclosed seas*

[Original: English] [18 March 1976]

- 1. Every State shall have the right to establish the breadth of its territorial sea up to a limit not exceeding... nautical miles, measured from baselines drawn in accordance with the provisions of the present Convention. This right shall be exercised without prejudice to the rights and interests of neighbouring coastal States.
- 2. The right referred to in paragraph 1 shall not be exercised in such a manner as to cut off the territorial sea of another State or any part thereof from the high seas.
- 3. In areas of semi-enclosed seas having special geographic characteristics, the breadth of the territorial sea shall be determined by agreement between the coastal States of that area, in accordance with equitable principles.

DOCUMENT A/CONF.62/C.2/L.91

Colombia: draft articles concerning the territorial sea: bays, the coasts of which belong to a single state, historic bays or other historic waters**

[Original: Spanish] [28 April 1976]

Article . . .

- A bay is a well-marked indentation whose penetration is in such proportion to the
 width of its mouth as to contain land-locked waters and constitute more than a mere
 curvature of the coast. An indentation shall not, however, be regarded as a bay unless its
 area is as large as or larger than a semi-circle whose diameter is a line drawn across the
 mouth of that indentation.
- 2. For the purpose of measurement, the area of an indentation is that lying between the low-water mark around the shore of the indentation and a line joining the low-water marks of its natural entrance points. Where, because of the presence of islands, an indentation has more than one mouth, the semi-circle shall be drawn on a line as long as the sum total of the lengths of the lines across the different mouths. Islands within an indentation shall be included as if they were part of the water area of the indentation.
- 3. If the distance between the low-water marks of the natural entrance points of a bay does not exceed 24 miles, a straight closing line may be drawn between these two low-water marks, and the waters enclosed thereby shall be considered as internal waters.
- 4. Where the distance between the low-water marks of the natural entrance points of a bay exceeds 24 miles, a straight baseline of 24 miles shall be drawn within the bay in such a manner as to enclose the maximum area of water that is possible with a line of that length,
- 5. The provisions of paragraphs 3 and 4 shall not apply to so-called "historic" bays or to bays the coasts of which belong to more than one State.

^{*} This text replaces the one contained in document A/CONF.62/C.2/L.8; see Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. 111 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.V.5).

^{**} These texts replace those of provisions 14 and 17 in document A/CONF.62/L.8/Rev.1, annex II, appendix I; see Official Records of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, vol. 111 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.V.5).