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Delimitation of the Border (Eritrea-Ethiopia): Demarcation Instructions

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DEMARCATIION INSTRUCTIONS, 22 AUGUST 2003

INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVES À LA DÉMARCATIION, 22 AOÛT 2003

Second set of technical instructions regarding demarcation—Zalambessa and Tserona—consideration of whether certain aspects of the boundary as set out in the Delimitation Decision are manifestly impracticable—river boundaries and islands.

Deuxième série d'instructions techniques concernant la démarcation – Zalambessa et Tserona – examen de la question de savoir si certains aspects de la frontière définis dans la décision relative à la délimitation sont manifestement impraticables; frontières et îles fluviales.

DEMARCATIION INSTRUCTIONS, 22 AUGUST 2003

The Commission issues the following second set of technical instructions regarding demarcation:

Towns of Tserona and Zalambessa

1. The demarcation team shall take the fullest account of the proposed boundaries in the Parties' comments on Tserona and Zalambessa and the instructions in Paragraph 14 E of the Demarcation Directions, and shall prepare a report on these towns.

Identification of pillar sites

Salt Lake

2. The demarcation team shall identify the edge of the Salt Lake in the neighbourhood of Point 31 and fix the position of that point accordingly.

Ragali Delta

3. The demarcation team shall fix the position of Point 30 between the banks of the Ragali.

Ragali Gorge

4. The demarcation team shall fix the position of the pillar site as close as possible to Point 29 so as to ensure that both Parties have continuous access to the waters of the Ragali.

Points 26, 23 and 22

5. With respect to Points 26, 23, and 22, the boundary shall be located at the intersection of the main channel of each tributary with a line joining the

upper and lower sections of the permanent bank of the main stream, and shall be marked by the demarcation team with an appropriate pillar site.

Points 24 and 25

6. The demarcation team shall fix Points 24 and 25 in accordance with Paragraph 14 D of the Demarcation Directions.

Boundary from Zalambessa to Point 21

7. The demarcation team shall investigate the area north of the Muna/Berbero Gado in order to determine whether there is a physical barrier affecting access from the north to the northern side of the river that makes the boundary as set out in the Delimitation Decision manifestly impracticable.

Plateau Land East of Zalambessa

8. The demarcation team shall examine whether the delimitation as contemplated in the Commission's Delimitation Decision is manifestly impracticable so as instead to require running a series of straight lines, in a generally east and south-east direction, from the north-eastern point of the outer boundary of Zalambessa, as proposed by Ethiopia in its comments.

Plateau Lands Near Point 18

9. The demarcation team shall fix pillar sites at the outer and westernmost tips of the perimeter of the plateau, linked by a series of straight lines traversing the valleys in between.

10. The demarcation team shall, insofar as practicable, fix pillar sites so that the pillars will be intervisible.

Eritrean Claim Line

11. The demarcation team shall fix pillar sites between which a series of straight lines would be drawn so as to reflect the Eritrean claim line as depicted on the Soviet map (1:100,000), these pillar sites to be located within approximately 200 metres of the coordinates extracted from the Soviet map.

12. The demarcation team shall, insofar as practicable, fix pillar sites so that the pillars will be intervisible.

13. The demarcation team shall fix a pillar site on the bank opposite the intersection of the tributary on the Eritrean claim line with the Belesa B.

14. The boundary following the main channel of the Belesa A and the main channel of the tributary shall be located at the intersection of the main channel of the tributary with a line joining the upper and lower sections of the permanent bank of the Belesa A, and shall be marked by the demarcation team with an appropriate pillar site.

Point 17

15. The boundary following the main channel of the Belesa A and the main channel of the tributary shall be located at the intersection of the main channel of the tributary with a line joining the upper and lower sections of the permanent bank of the Belesa A, and shall be marked by the demarcation team with an appropriate pillar site.

Points 15 and 16

16. The demarcation team shall fix the position of Points 15 and 16 in accordance with Paragraph 14 D of the Demarcation Directions.

Point 14

17. The boundary following the main channel of the Belesa B and the main channel of the tributary shall be located at the intersection of the main channel of the tributary with a line joining the upper and lower sections of the permanent bank of the Belesa B, and shall be marked by the demarcation team with an appropriate pillar site.

Points 6 and 9

18. The demarcation team shall now fix the position of Points 6 and 9.

Criteria for pillar site selection

19. The requirements for identifying pillar sites in the Central and Western Sectors are:

- (a) helicopter and/or vehicle access to all sites;
- (b) suitability of the site for emplacing the pillar and associated markers.

River boundaries and islands

20. Having considered the submissions and comments of the Parties, the Commission determines that:

- (a) the identification of a river, as a boundary, should normally suffice without actual demarcation therein save as regards the identification of such turning points as might otherwise give rise to doubts, and of headwaters or sources;
- (b) the boundary is the middle of the main channel (the channel of greatest volume) and will move in accordance with any change in position of the middle of the main channel;
- (c) the middle of the main channel, as defined in (b) above, shall not be demarcated;
- (d) islands shall fall within the territory of either Party according to their location in relationship to the main channel.

21. The demarcation team shall determine by appropriate methods the position in relation to the main channel of those islands identified by the Parties in their comments.