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1 Introduction

This submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf is made by the Government of the French Republic pursuant to Article 76, paragraph 8, and article 4 of Annex II of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, in support of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond the 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured, in the areas of French Guiana and New Caledonia. This submission is a partial submission, as was the one presented jointly with Spain, Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the 19th of May 2006, for the region of the Celtic Sea and the Bay of Biscay.

2 The continental shelf

The present submission deals only with the outer limit of the continental shelf in the areas of French Guiana and New Caledonia. In accordance with paragraph 3 of Annex I of the Rules and Procedures, submissions for other parts of

54°0'0"W	52°0'0"W	50°0'0"W	48°0'0"W

Figure 1 : The continental shelf in the area of French Guiana (Projection: Mercator 10°N)

2.2 New Caledonia

The extension of the continental shelf beyond 200 miles from the baselines of New Caledonia is divided in two areas, one to the south east and the other to the south west (Figure 2).

2.2.1 South East

The extension of the continental shelf in the region to the south east of New Caledonia is located where the Loyalty Ridge terminates against the Cook Fracture Zone (Figure 2). The area covers the eastern margin of the Loyalty Ridge and its junction with the South Fiji Basin. The extension is limited to the west by the area under Australian jurisdiction (EEZ). In the area beyond 200 miles, a potential overlap of claims exists between the continental shelves of France, Australia and New Zealand.

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2.2.2 South West

The extension of the continental shelf in the area to the south west of New Caledonia is situated on the Lord Howe Rise (Figure 2). This extension is limited to the south by the Maritime Delimitation Agreement between France and Australia dated January 4th, 1982. Due to this agreement, the entire area is located within the outer limit of the continental margin.

3 Specific provisions invoked to support this partial submission

The outer limits contained in this partial submission are based on the provisions of Articles 76(1), 76.4 (a)(i), 76.4 (a)(ii) and 76.4 (b) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and on the Agreement for Maritime Delimitation between France and Australia of January 4th, 1982 (United Nations Publications, Volume 1329, page 107).

4 Absence of disputes

In accordance with paragraph 2(a) of Annex I to the Commission's Rules of Procedures, France wishes to inform the Commission that the continental shelf in the area of French Guiana is not the subject of any dispute between France and any other State. The continental shelf in the south east sector of New Caledonia (the area of the Loyalty Ridge) is the subject of exchanges of *notes verbales* between France and Australia on the one hand, and France and New Zealand on the other. With these exchanges, the three States provide the Commission with the assurance that their respective submissions can be treated without prejudice to issues related to the delimitation of the continental shelf between them.

5.2 New Caledonia

5.2.1 South East

In this submission, for

5.2.2 South West

In this submission, for the sector to the south west of New Caledonia (the area of the Lord Howe Rise) the demonstration of natural prolongation leads to the conclusion that the continental margin covers the entire area beyond 200 miles, up to the limit established by the Agreement of Maritime Delimitation between France and Australia of the 4th of January 1982.

6 State bodies responsible for the preparation of this partial continental shelf submission

This submission, as well as all maps, figures, appendices and data bases, were prepared by EXTRAPLAC, a consortium constituted of the French Research Institute for Exploitation of the Sea (Ifremer), the Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Navy (SHOM), IFP, and the French Polar Institute Paul-Emile Victor (IPEV), coordinated by the General Secretariat for the Sea.

The part of this submission that concerns New Caledonia associates also in its preparation the Territory of New Caledonia, via its Geological Service (SGNC) of the Department of Industry, Mines and Energy of New Caledonia (DIMENC).

EXTRAPLAC is a national multi-year program dedicated to the continental shelf extension and funded by the French Government through the Department of Industry

Appendix 1: The outer limit of the continental shelf in the area of French Guiana

FP	Latitude North	Longitude West	Method, Article 76	From	То	Distance (m)	Distance (Miles)
1	10.3136143	51.8676398	Fixed Point resulting from sediment thickness of 1% of the distance to the Foot of the Slope, 76(4a ii)				
2	10.2005811	51.3192497	Fixed Point resulting from sediment thickness of 1% of the distance to the Foot of the Slope, 76(4a ii)	1	2	61364.40	33.13
3	10.0648952	50.8151017	Fixed Point resulting from sediment thickness of 1% of the distance to the Foot of the Slope, 76(4a ii)	2	3	57253.91	30.91
4	9.6625010	50.4638717	Fixed Point resulting from sediment thickness of 1% of the distance to the Foot of the Slope, 76(4a ii)	3	4	58864.75	31.78
5	9.3689421	50.0461236	Fixed Point resulting from sediment thickness of 1% of the distance to the Foot of the Slope, 76(4a ii)	4	5	56196.85	30.34

Appendix 2: The outer limit of the continental shelf in the area to the south east of New Caledonia

FP	Latitude	Longitude	Method , Article 76	From	То	Distance	Distance	
	South	East		East			(m)	(Miles)
	25.0703177	174.2748840	Fixed Point located on the limit of					
			the French EEZ at 200 miles					
1			from the base lines of the					
			territorial sea, 76(1)					
2	26.0551506	174.4811259	F21566P pb0C1D 22852560658.190003tFTen(1)Tj8CD	28256	650.9003 Tm(1)Tj6003lin2 0.48 \$	55.2 ref372.84

FP	Latitude	Longitude	Method, Article 76	From	То	Distance
	South	East				

FP	Latitude South	Longitude East	Method , Article 76	From	То	Distance (m)	Distance (Miles)
65	26.9884241	175.0649635	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	64	65	1852.00	1.00
66	27.0051258	175.0656732	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	65	66	1852.00	1.00
67	27.0218352	175.0660707	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	66	67	1852.00	1.00
68	27.0385480	175.0661583	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	67	68	1852.00	1.00
69	27.0552603	175.0659337	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	68	69	1852.00	1.00
70	27.0719661	175.0653992	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	69	70	1852.00	1.00
71	27.0886614	175.0645525	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	70	71	1852.00	1.00
72	27.1053420	175.0633959	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	71	72	1852.00	1.00

FP	Latitude South	Longitude East	Method , Article 76	From	То	Distance (m)	Distance (Miles)
109	27.6706237	174.8107268	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	108	109	1852.00	1.00
110	27.6834335	174.7986737	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	109	110	1852.00	1.00
111	27.6960638	174.7863780	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	110	111	1852.00	1.00
112	27.7085068	174.7738442	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	111	112	1852.00	1.00
113	27.7207624	174.7610769	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	112	113	1852.00	1.00
114	27.7328249	174.7480805	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	113	114	1852.00	1.00
115	27.7446902	174.7348551	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	114	115	1852.00	1.00
116	27.7563583	174.7214073	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	115	116	1852.00	1.00
117	27.7678235	174.7077394	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	1			

FP	Latitude South	Longitude East	Method , Article 76	From	То	Distance (m)	Distance (Miles)
153	28.2682758	173.3486423	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	152	153	1852.00	1.00
154	28.2707949	173.3299821	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	153	154	1852.00	1.00
155	28.2730356	173.3112791	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	154	155	1852.00	1.00
156	28.2749980	173.2925335	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	155	156	1852.00	1.00
157	28.2766800	173.2737543	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	156	157	1852.00	1.00
158	28.2780816	173.2549435	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	157	158	1852.00	1.00
159	28.2792049	173.2361104	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	158	159	1852.00	1.00
160	28.2864989	173.0806996	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	159	160	15267.81	8.24
161	28.2873418	173.0618462	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	160	161	1852.00	1.00
162	28.2879024	173.0429793	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	161	162	1852.00	1.00
163	28.2881807	173.0241057	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	162	163	1852.00	1.00
164	28.2881807	173.0052276	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	163	164	1852.00	1.00

FP	Latitude	Longitude	Method , Article 76	From	То	Distance	Distance
	South	East				(m)	(Miles)
175	28.2338011	172.5708832	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	174	175	24581.34	13.27
176	28.2307261	172.5523375	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	175	176	1852.00	1.00
177	28.2273746	172.5338546	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	176	177	1852.00	1.00
178	28.2237504	172.5154369	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	177	178	1852.00	1.00
179	28.2198497	172.4970911	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	178	179	1852.00	1.00
180	28.2156782	172.4788238	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	179	180	1852.00	1.00
181	28.2112341	172.4606374	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	180	181	1852.00	1.00
182	28.2065211	172.4425409	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	181	182	1852.00	1.00
183	28.2015374	172.4245364	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	182	183	1852.00	1.00
184	28.1962869	172.4066285	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	183	184	1852.00	1.00
185	28.1907714	172.3888261	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	184	185	1852.00	1.00
186	28.1849910	172.3711293	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	185	186	1852.00	1.00
187	28.1789476	172.3535470	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	186	187	1852.00	1.00
188	28.1726432	172.3360838	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	187	188	1852.00	1.00
189	28.1660797	172.3187418	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	188	189	1852.00	1.00
190	28.1592590	172.3015278	Fixed point at 60 miles from the Foot of the Slope, 76(4)	189	190	1852.00	

Appendix 3: The outer limit of the cont