



**PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION**

**SUBMITTED BY THE DOMINICAN POLICE**

**TO THE COMMISSION**

**ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CONSUMER**

**REVISED**

**18 July 2012**

**10 August 2012**

Preliminary information submitted by the Republic of Vanuatu to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

1. The Republic of Vanuatu is a State Party to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention") and signed the Convention on 10 October 1982.

2. The Republic of Vanuatu is mindful of its obligations under the Convention and of the importance of the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (the Commission) for Coastal States and the International Community as a whole.

3. Pursuant to the Decision regarding the workload of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf and the ability of States, particularly small island developing States, to fulfil the requirements of article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, as well as the decision contained in SF/LOS/2, paragraph (a), (2010/109), the following preliminary information in respect of Vanuatu's continental shelf limits of the continental shelf is being submitted to the Commission. The continental shelf extends from the islands of Vanuatu, including Abi and Toror (see map of Vanuatu continental shelf).

4. The Republic of Vanuatu comprises the islands of Erromanga (Umao) and Haka (Haka) of the Republic of Vanuatu and the continental margin which extends from them are land territory and maritime relations with them are being standing upon the Convention of the French Republic and this dispute has not been resolved in accordance with international law to date.

5. The Republic of Vanuatu also notes that the maritime boundary delimitation remains unsettled between Vanuatu and the French Republic. Annex II to the Convention, in particular, provides that the resolution of these delimitation disputes shall be left to the discretion of the States concerned.

6. The Republic of Vanuatu acknowledges the decision taken by the Government of the French Republic in the year 1987 to request the Commission to consider the continental margin of the French Republic.

7. The Republic of Vanuatu has commenced work on the preparation of the submission in respect of the area of the continental shelf and the seabed and assembled legal, policy and technical information in the preparation of its submission.

8. In addition to the resources that the Government of Vanuatu has committed to the work, the Government of Vanuatu has committed to the work the Government of Vanuatu assistance to the Government of Vanuatu in the preparation of the submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf for developing States and in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for the purposes of providing software and technical training for this purpose.

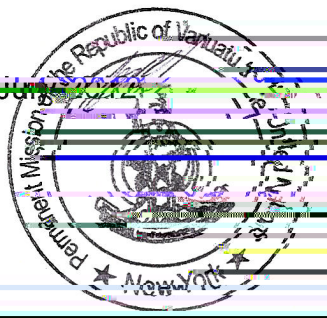
9. The Republic of Vanuatu intends to request a further submission to the Commission in the period 2017-2018. In this regard, the Republic of Vanuatu intends to take advantage of all available data and opportunities for the scientific and technical capacity building activities to complete the preparation of the submission.

10. The Republic of Vanuatu notes in accordance with paragraph 1 (h) of SLOS/193, regarding the receipt of preliminary information submitted by the continental shelf region of Vanuatu, the Commission will consider the preliminary information submitted by the Government of Vanuatu as preliminary information submitted by the Government of Vanuatu.

11. The Republic of Vanuatu also notes that in accordance with paragraph 1 (i) of SLOS/193, the preliminary information submitted by Vanuatu is without prejudice to the Government of Vanuatu's position and to be considered by the Commission.

12. The Republic of Vanuatu requests that the Commission of the United Nations to inform the Government of Vanuatu of the receipt of this preliminary information and to be considered by the Commission in accordance with paragraph 1 (d) of SLOS/193.

New York, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017



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