

The National Congress, on behalf of the Republic,

Considering the current trend evidenced by various countries which have claimed for themselves the resources of the sea by extending the limits of their territorial waters and the fact that the United Nations is promoting the harmonious regulation of these trends which will constitute the norms for the final codification of the law of the sea;

Considering that it is necessary for the Dominican State to promote the exploitation of the marine resources beyond its territorial waters;

Considering that it is urgently necessary to bring our legislation up to date in view of the progress made by science and technology in this field by promoting the full and effective exercise by the coastal State of its rights and in view of the duty which we have to preserve such valuable resources for exploitation by present and future generations;

Having regard to article 5 of the Constitution of the Dominican Republic;

Having regard to the Declaration of Santo Domingo of the Specialized Conference of the Caribbean Countries on Problems of the Sea of 9 July 1972;

Has enacted the following Act:

ARTICLE 1. The title of Act No. 186 of 13 September 1967 and articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 shall be amended as follows:

Title: "On the Territorial Sea, Contiguous Zone, Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf".

Article 3: There shall be established a contiguous zone supplementary to the territorial sea, known as the "Contiguous Zone" and consisting of a belt of sea adjoining the outer limit of the territorial sea and extending 24 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.

(1) The Dominican State shall exercise in the "Contiguous Zone" the control measures necessary to:

(a) Prevent any breaches of its customs, fiscal, immigration and sanitary laws which might be committed in its territory or in its territorial sea;

(b) Punish any breaches of such laws committed in its territory or in its territorial sea.

Article 4: There shall be established a zone situated outside the territorial sea and adjacent to it known as the "Exclusive Economic Zone".

(1) The "Exclusive Economic Zone" shall extend in the direction of the high seas up to 200 nautical miles measured from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured. The limits of the zone shall be established by a broken line beginning at the first boundary mark on our frontier with the neighbouring Republic of Haiti, at the mouth of the River Masacre or Dajabón and passing through points whose geographical positions are as follows:

a) River Masacre boundary.

- | | | | | | | | |
|----|----------|-----|-----|-----------|-----------|---------|----|
| b) | Lat. 19° | 50' | 30" | N. | Long. 72° | 02" | W. |
| c) | Lat. 20° | 33' | 30" | N. | Long. 72° | 08" 20" | W. |
| d) | Lat. 20° | 36' | N. | Long. 71° | 38' | W. | |
| e) | Lat. 20° | 33' | N. | Long. 71° | 27' | W. | |
| f) | Lat. 20° | 34' | 30" | N. | Long. 71° | 08' 30" | W. |
| g) | Lat. 20° | 44' | 30" | N. | Long. 70° | 23' 30" | W. |
| h) | Lat. 21° | 11' | 30" | N. | Long. 69° | 29' | W. |
| i) | Lat. 22° | 23' | 30" | N. | Long. 67° | 45' | W. |
| j) | Lat. 21° | 49' | N. | Long. 67° | 24' | W. | |
| k) | Lat. 18° | 33' | 20" | N. | Long. 67° | 44' | W. |
| l) | Lat. 18° | 29' | 30" | N. | Long. 67° | 47' 30" | W. |
| m) | Lat. 18° | 21' | 40" | N. | Long. 68° | 07' | W. |
| n) | Lat. 18° | 06' | N. | Long. 68° | 15' 30" | W. | |

ñ)	Lat. 16 ^o	08'	30"	N.	Long.	58 ^o	21"	W.	
o)	Lat. 15 ^o	18'		N.	Long.	69 ^o	29'	30"	W.
p)	Lat. 15 ^o	02'		N.	Long.	73 ^o	27'	30"	W.
q)	Lat. 16 ^o	50"		N.	Long.	72 ^o	49'	W.	
r)	Lat. 17 ^o	49"		N.	Long.	72 ^o	05'	30"	W.

s) Last boundary mark on border with Haiti, at Pedernales

to meet with the last boundary mark on the border with Haiti at the mouth of the River Pedernales.

Article 5: The Dominican State shall exercise sovereign rights in this zone for the purposes of exploration and exploitation, conservation and administration of natural resources, both living and non-living, of the sea-bed and subsoil and superjacent waters.

(1) It shall also exercise exclusive rights and jurisdiction with respect to the establishment and utilization of artificial islands, installations and structures within the zone.

(2) The Dominican State shall exercise exclusive jurisdiction with respect to other activities with a view to the exploration and economic exploitation of this zone, such as the production of energy derived from water, currents and winds.

(3) The Dominican State shall exercise jurisdiction with respect to the preservation of the marine environment, including control and reduction of pollution.

(4) The Dominican State shall regulate the investigation, exploration and exploitation of resources within this zone.

Article 6: The establishment of this exclusive economic zone shall not affect the right to freedom of navigation and overflight and the right to lay cables and submarine pipelines or other legitimate and reasonable international uses of the sea, without prejudice to compliance with the laws and regulations laid down by the Dominican State in accordance with this Act and with the norms of international law.

Article 7: The Dominican State shall exercise sovereign rights over the continental shelf for purposes of its exploration and the exploitation of its natural resources.

(1) For the purposes of this article, the term "Continental Shelf" includes the sea-bed and subsoil of the submarine areas stretching beyond the territorial sea and all along the natural extension of its land territory up to the outer edge of the continental terrace, or up to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the territorial sea is measured in cases where the outer edge of the continental terrace does not extend to that distance.

(2) The rights referred to in this article are exclusive in the sense that, if the State does not explore the continental shelf or exploit its natural resources, no one may undertake these activities without its express consent.

(3) The natural resources to which these provisions refer are the mineral and other non-living resources of the sea-bed and the subsoil thereof, as well as living organisms belonging to sedentary species, that is, those which during the period of exploitation are immobile in the sea-bed or the subsoil thereof or which can only move in constant physical contact with the sea-bed or the subsoil thereof.

Article 8: The provisions of this Act shall be applied in harmony with the relevant norms of international law and conventions in force on the subject, which shall apply to the exclusive economic zone, insofar as they are not incompatible.

ARTICLE 2. This Act repeals any provision which conflicts with it.

DONE in the Meeting Hall of the Chamber of Deputies, Palace of the National Congress, at Santo Domingo de Guzmán, Distrito Nacional, Capital of the Dominican Republic, on 2 March 1977, 134th year of Independence and 114th year of the Restoration.

Atilio A. Guzmán Fernández,
President

Miriam Marte de Sibilia,
Secretary

José Eligio Bautista Ramos,
Secretary

DONE in the Meeting Hall of the Senate, Palace of the National Congress, at Santo Domingo de Guzmán, Distrito Nacional, Capital of the Dominican Republic, on 22 March 1977, 134th year of Independence and 114th year of the Restoration.

Adriano A. Uribe Silva,
President of the Senate

Josefina Portes de Valenzuela,
Secretary

Elías Sarraff Eder
Secretary Ad hoc

I, JOAQUIN BALAGUER, President of the Dominican Republic,
In exercise of the powers conferred in article 55 of the Constitution of the Republic,

Promulgate this Act and order it to be published in the Official Gazette for information and execution.

DONE in Santo Domingo de Guzmán, Distrito Nacional, Capital of the Dominican Republic, on 1 April 1977, 134th year of Independence and 114th year of the Restoration.

JOAQUIN BALAGUER