

Kingdom Act of 27 May 1999 establishing an exclusive economic zone of the Kingdom (Exclusive Economic Zone (Establishment) Act)

We, Beatrix, by the grace of God Queen of the Netherlands, Princess of Orange-Nassau, etc., etc., etc.

Greetings to all who shall see or hear these presents! Be it known:

Whereas We have considered that, mainly in order to enhance the protection and preservation of the marine environment, it is desirable to extend the Kingdom's jurisdiction and, to that end, to establish an exclusive economic zone;

We, therefore, having heard the Council of State of the Kingdom, and in consultation with the States-General, taking into account the provisions of the Charter of the Kingdom, have approved and decreed as We hereby approve and decree:

Section 1

1. The Kingdom shall have an exclusive economic zone.
2. The Kingdom's exclusive economic zone shall be the area beyond and adjacent to the Kingdom's territorial sea that does not extend beyond two hundred nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.

Section 2

The outer limit of the exclusive economic zone shall be determined by order in council in the case of the Netherlands and by order in council for the Kingdom in the case of the Netherlands Antilles or Aruba.

Section 3

In the exclusive economic zone, in accordance with the restrictions laid down by international law, the Kingdom shall have:

- (a) Sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, whether living or non-living, of the waters superjacent to the seabed and of the seabed and its subsoil, and with regard to other activities for the economic exploitation and exploration of the zone, such as the production of energy from water, currents and winds;
- (b) Jurisdiction with regard to the establishment and use of artificial islands, installations and structures, marine scientific research, and the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

Section 4

This Act shall enter into force on a date to be determined by Royal Decree, which may differ for each of the countries of the Kingdom.

Section 5

This Act may be cited as the Exclusive Economic Zone (Institution) Act.

We order and command that this Act shall be published in the *Bulletin of Acts and Decrees*, the *Official Bulletin of the Netherlands Antilles* and the *Official Bulletin of Aruba*, and that all ministries, authorities, bodies and officials whom it may concern shall diligently implement it.

Done at The Hague on 27 May 1999

Beatrix

J.J. van Aartsen
Minister for Foreign Affairs

J.M. de Vries
State Secretary for Transport, Public Works and Water Management

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A.H. Korthals
Minister of Justice