

Whereas it has become necessary to define straight closing lines and baselines to supplement the baseline for the continental European coast and the coasts of the Provinces of Guinea, Angola, and Mozambique established in Section I, Article 1, of Law No. 2130 of August 22, 1966:

By virtue of Section I, Article 2, thereof,

By virtue of the authority conferred under Article 109 (2) (1) of the Constitution, the Government decrees and I hereby promulgate the following law.

Article 1

Along the continental European coast and the coast of the Provinces of Guinea, Angola, and Mozambique, the normal baseline for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea, established in Section I of Law No. 2130, shall be supplemented by the straight closing lines and baselines defined by the points whose geographic coordinates are contained in the following tables:

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(3) Straight closing lines and baselines supplementing the normal baseline in Angola:

Points	Latitude S.	Longitude E.
Ponta Spilimberta.....	08° 35' 00"	13° 22' 15"
Point of ilha da Luanda.....	00° 45' 31"	13° 15' 43"
Point on ilha de Luanda .....	08° 47' 02"	13° 13' 54"
Point S. of ponta do Mossulo.....	09° 52' 42"	13° 07' 42"
Giraul.....	15° 08' 02"	12° 06' 40"
Barreiras Brancas.....	15° 13' 00"	12° 04' 07"
Praia do Navio.....	16° 14' 09"	11° 48' 00"
Point S. of ponta da Marca.....	16° 32' 39"	11° 40' 20"

The decree creates straight baselines which, in effect, enclose Luanda harbour and its associated waters, the Bay (Baia de) Mossamedes, and the Bay (Baia dos) Tigros. The latter two bays are situated in southwestern Angola, near the South-West Africa frontier.

Segment	Length (n.m.)	Comments
Ponta Spilimberta - unnamed point on Luanda island	12.75	The line closes the Bay of Bengo situated to the northeast of Luanda. Bengo does not meet the semi-circularity requirement of the 1958 Geneva Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone to qualify as a bay even if the waters behind Luanda island are included.
Unnamed point on Luanda island - unnamed point south of Ponta "ussolo	8.25	The points chosen do not constitute the "natural closing points" of the bay; rather they extend beyond. However, the waters enclosed by the line would meet the criteria of a bay. It has not been determined if the two water bodies enclosed by the two segments could together be a legal bay. Luanda island, however, can not be said to fringe the coast.
Giraul - Barreiras Brancas	5.5	The southern point of this bay-closing line is beyond the natural closing point of the bay. It is a legal bay.
Praia do Navio - unnamed point south of Ponta da Marca	20.3	The enclosed Baía dos Tigres is a geographical and legal bay although the "natural entrance points" have not been utilized by the closing line. More logical selections would extend the line from Ponta da Marca eastward to the opposite shore. All of this shore north of the latter point faces on the Atlantic rather than the bay.

The four shore segments created by the decree total only 46.8 nautical miles in length. The total natural coast line of Angola, including Cabinda, is greater than 800 nautical miles. Relatively speaking, the baselines represent a very small portion of the coast, closing off natural indentations on an otherwise featureless shoreline.