

- ITALY

Agreement between the Hellenic Republic and the Italian Republic on the Delimitation of the Respective Continental Shelf Areas of the two States 24 May 1977

Having decided to establish the boundary line between the respective continental shelf areas of the two States according to the principle of the median line, the two Contracting Parties have agreed as follows:

Article 1

1. In order to apply the principle of the median line referred to in the preamble to this Agreement and taking into account mutually agreed minor adjustments, the boundary line between the respective continental shelf areas of the two States shall be defined by the arcs of a great circle which join the following points:

Point	Latitude N	Longitude East of Greenwich
1	39° 57.7'	18° 57.5'
2	39° 52.4'	18° 56.1'
3	39° 49.0'	18° 54.9'
4	39° 17.3'	18° 55.6'
5	39° 02.0'	18° 54.0'
6	38° 30.0'	18° 43.9'
7	37° 52.0'	18° 28.6'
8	37° 21.3'	18° 17.0'
9	36° 59.5'	18° 19.1'
10	36° 54.4'	18° 19.2'
11	36° 45.0'	18° 18.6'
12	36° 26.5'	18° 18.0'
13	36° 24.1	18° 17.7'
14	36° 11.0'	18° 15.7'
15	36° 09.0'	18° 15.7'
16	35° 34.2'	18° 20.7'

2. The above-mentioned boundary line shall be drawn on the following maps, which are annexed to this Agreement.

- (a) Hellenic nautical map No. 11, 1956 edition, scale 1:1,000,000 at 38°;
- (b) Italian nautical map No. 436 L(C), 1975 edition, scale 1:1,000,000 at 41°.

3. The Contracting Parties have agreed that, for the time being, the delimitation shall not extend northward beyond point 1 and southward beyond point 16.

This delimitation shall subsequently be extended northward and southward in both directions until it meets the continental shelf areas of the respective neighbouring countries.

Article 2

If a mineral deposit, including sand and gravel, is split by the boundary line and if that part of the deposit which is situated on one side of the boundary line can be mined wholly or in part by means of installations situated on the other side of the line, the two Governments shall endeavour, in conjunction with the holders of mining licences, if any, to reach agreement on how to mine the deposit in order to ensure that such mining is as profitable as possible and that each Party preserves its full rights over the mineral resources of the sea-bed and subsoil of its continental shelf.

If the natural resources of a deposit situated on both sides of the boundary line have already been mined, the Contracting Parties shall do everything possible, after consulting the holders of mining licences, if any to reach agreement on equitable compensation.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall take all possible measures to ensure that the exploration and their respective areas of the continental shelf and the exploitation of the latter's natural resources do not adversely affect the ecological balance or interfere with other legitimate uses of the sea.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to settle, through the diplomatic means, any dispute which may arise concerning the interpretation or application of this Agreement.

If such dispute is not settled within four months from the date on which one of the Contracting Parties gave notice of its intention to initiate the procedure provided for in the preceding paragraph, it shall be referred to the International Court of Justice, at the request of either Contracting Party, or to any other international body chosen by mutual consent.

Article 5

None of the provisions of this Agreement shall affect the status of the superjacent waters and airspace.

Article 6

1. This Agreement shall be subject to ratification.
The instruments of ratification shall be exchanged as soon as possible at Rome.
2. This agreement shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification.
DONE at Athens on 24 May 1977, in two original copies in the French language, both texts being equally authentic.