

AGREEMENT ON THE DELIMITATION OF MARINE AND SUBSOIL
AREAS AND MARITIME COOPERATION BETWEEN THE
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA

The Governments of the Dominican Republic and of the Republic of Colombia, conscious of the cordial friendship prevailing in the relations between the two countries, and considering that it is their obligation to safeguard for their peoples the natural resources, both renewable and non-renewable, that are found in the marine and subsoil areas under their sovereignty and jurisdiction;

That their common interests in the Caribbean region make indispensable the establishment of a close collaboration in order to adopt measures adequate for the preservation, conservation and rational use of the resources existing in the said maritime areas;

That it is necessary to cooperate in the scientific research on the living resources in zones frequently visited by specific migratory species;

That it is convenient to delimit their respective marine and subsoil areas;

To that effect have designated their Plenipotentiaries as follows:

His Excellency, the President of Colombia
to Dr. Indalecio Lievano Aguirre, Minister of
External Relations;

His Excellency, the President of the Dominican
Republic to Rear Admiral Ramon Emilio Jimenez Junior,
Secretary of State for External Relations;

Who, after having communicated their full powers and found them in due form have agreed to the following:

Article I

The delineation of the marine and submarine areas that correspond to each of the two countries shall be effected, in general practice, by using the principle of the median line whose points are all equidistant from the closest points of the base lines whence the extension of the territorial sea of each state is measured.

Article II

In accordance with the procedures established in the foregoing article, the delineation shall be constituted by a line which, drawn from a point whose geographical position is in latitude 15 degrees, 2 minutes, 00 seconds north and longitude 73 degrees, 27 minutes, 30 seconds west, runs through a point located in latitude 15 degrees, 00 minutes, 30 seconds west, to another point located in latitude 15 degrees, 18 minutes, 00 seconds north and longitude 69 degrees, 29 minutes, 30 seconds west, to where delineation must be effected with a third state.

The line and the points agreed upon are shown on chart No. 25000, of the Defense Mapping Agency of the United States of America which is attached to this agreement, duly signed by the plenipotentiaries.

Article III

To establish a common scientific research and fishery exploitation zone which will be included between four straight lines drawn between the following points, each one of which is located at a distance of 20 nautical miles from the line that constitutes the maritime limit between the two countries:

Straight Line A: Between Point 1 (Latitude 15°22'00" North, Longitude 73°19'30" West)
and Point 2 (Latitude 14°42'00" North,
Longitude 73°20'30" West).

Straight Line B: Between Point 2 (Latitude 14°42'00" North, Longitude 73°20'30" West) and Point 3 (Latitude 14°40'30" North, Longitude 71°40'30" West).

Straight Line C: Between Point 3 (Latitude 14°40'30" North, Longitude 71°40'30" West) and Point 4 (Latitude 15°20'00" North, Longitude 71°40'00" West).

Straight Line D: Between Point 4 (Latitude 15°20'00" North, Longitude 71°40'00" West) and Point 1 (Latitude 15°22'00" North, Longitude 73°19'30" West).

In the area under its sovereignty and jurisdiction within the zone mentioned above, each of the two countries undertakes to take the following measures:

A) To allow nationals from the other state to carry out fishing activities, provided they are effected in a rational manner and in accordance with the country to which the area in which such activities are undertaken corresponds.

B) To provide the other party with the results of the research on live resources undertaken in such area, particularly concerning the tuna family and other migratory species.

C) To coordinate and undertake with the other party the scientific research activities arrived at by mutual agreement.

D) To provide the other party periodically with information on the type and quantity of the catch obtained in the area.

E) To establish close cooperation in watchfulness over the zone to prevent nationals from third party states from engaging in unauthorized fishing activities therein.

The common scientific research and fishing exploitation zone established in this agreement, including the regime adopted therefore, may be modified by an Agreement between the Parties, or cancelled on the initiative of either of them, by a written notice to the Ministry of Foreign Relations of the other State 90 days in advance.

Article IV

To cooperate mutually, as far as possible, in order to control, reduce and avoid any pollution of the marine environment that may affect the neighboring state. They also agree to work in common accord in cases where accidents may occur involving tankers, ships and aircraft in the maritime areas of one of the two countries, and where the resulting pollution may threaten the other state.

Article V

To coordinate, as far as possible, those measures of conservation that each party applies to its marine and submarine areas, particularly for those species which stray from their respective maritime zones, taking into consideration the most recent and accurate scientific data. Such cooperation will not affect the sovereign right of each state to adopt, within the limits of its respective jurisdiction, the rules and regulations that each deem pertinent.

Article VI

The Parties will try to resolve any differences that may arise in the interpretation or during the application of this agreement by diplomatic means before using other peaceful means of solution recognized by international law.

This Agreement will come into force on the date of the exchange of the respective ratification instruments, which will take place in the city of Bogota.

In witness whereof the Plenipotentiaries sign this agreement in two originals, the text of which shall be identical.

Done in the city of Santo Domingo on the 13th day of January, nineteen hundred and seventy eight.

For the Government of the
Dominican Republic

For the Government of the
Republic of Colombia

R. Emilio Jimenez Hijo
Vice Admiral
Secretary of State for
Foreign Relations

Idalecio Lievano Aguirre,
Minister of Foreign
Relations of Colombia