

## CAMEROON

## SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Apr 2000	Law No. 2000-2	12nm	<p>"The purpose of this Law is to fix the limits of maritime areas of [Cameroon] and to make its laws conform to its international commitments in this domain."</p> <p>Repeals <a href="#">Law No. 74-16</a> of 1974 which had claimed a 50nm territorial sea. The U.S. had protested this prior claim in CY 1968 and 1986, and conducted an operational assertion in FY 1991.</p>
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Jun 1962	Decree 62-DF-216		Described closing lines for bays, gulfs, and roadsteads. The U.S. did not recognize these baselines, and had protested this prior claim in 1963. These baselines were revised by <a href="#">Decree 71-DF-416</a> of Aug 1971.
	Apr 2000	Law No. 2000-2		Establishes baselines as low-water mark; enabling legislation for straight baselines to be "established in accordance with the International Law of the Sea." Repeals those laws which do not conform to the LOS Convention.
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Apr 2000	Law No. 2000-2	24nm	
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Apr 2000	Law No. 2000-2	CM / 200nm	
	May 2009	<a href="#">Preliminary Information</a> (French only)		<p>Submitted preliminary information to the CLCS on the limits of the continental shelf beyond 200nm.</p> <p>The UN received a <a href="#">letter</a> from Equatorial Guinea regarding the submission.</p>
EEZ	Apr 2000	Law No. 2000-2	200nm	To the outer limit "placed under its jurisdiction by international law."
MARITIME BOUNDARIES	Jun 1975	<a href="#">Maroua Declaration</a>		Maritime boundary agreement with Nigeria signed and EIF.
	Oct 2002	<a href="#">ICJ Judgment</a> (Cameroon v. Nigeria: Equatorial Guinea Intervening)		International Court of Justice (ICJ) decision on the Land and Maritime Boundary between Cameroon and Nigeria. See <a href="#">LOS Bulletin No. 50</a> , page 70, for boundary coordinates and map. (Also see <a href="#">summary</a> of judgment.)
LOS CONVENTION	Dec 1982			Signed Convention.
	Nov 1985			Ratified Convention.
	May 1995			Signed Part XI Agreement.
	Aug 2002			Ratified Part XI Agreement.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following are extracts of Law No. 2000-2 of 17 April 2000 relating to the Maritime Areas of the Republic of Cameroon, as reproduced in the January 2000 edition of the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cameroon.

*The National Assembly deliberated and adopted, the President of the Republic Hereby enacts the Law set out below:*

## Chapter I General Provisions

Section 1. The purpose of this Law is to fix the limits of maritime areas of the Republic of Cameroon and to make its laws conform to its international commitments in this domain.

Section 2. The rules and principles applied as well as the methods used are those provided for by the International Law of the Sea, in particular, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982.

## Chapter II Territorial Sea

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Section 4. The width of the territorial sea, measured from baselines, shall be 12 nautical miles.

Section 5. (1) The baseline from which the width of the territorial sea is measured shall be the low-water mark along the coast.

(2) However, where there are river mouths, bays ports, harbours and other indentations, as well as a chain of islands along the coast near it, the baselines from which the territorial sea is measured shall be the straight baselines established in accordance with the International Law of the Sea.

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Section 8. The Republic of Cameroon shall in its territorial sea be entitled to all the rights and obligations guaranteed by international law, without prejudice to those granted to States and foreign vessels where such rights and obligations are exercised in accordance with the International Law of the Sea.

## Chapter III Contiguous Zone

Section 9. The contiguous zone of the Republic of Cameroon shall be 24 nautical miles starting from the baselines from which the width of the territorial seas is measured, excluding an maritime area constituting part of the territorial sea of another State or subject to the sovereign laws of another State, in accordance with the International Law of the Sea.

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## Chapter IV Exclusive economic zone

Section 11. (1) The exclusive economic zone of the Republic of Cameroon shall stretch from the external boundary of the territorial sea of the Republic of Cameroon to the limit placed under its jurisdiction by international law.

(2) It shall not include maritime areas subject to the sovereign laws of another State, in accordance with the International Law of the Sea.

Section 12. The Republic of Cameroon shall have the rights, jurisdiction and obligations of the coastal State provided for by the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, without prejudice to the rights and obligations of other States in accordance with the said Convention.

## Chapter V Continental Shelf

Section 13. The continental shelf of the Republic of Cameroon shall comprise the seabed and ocean floor, including those of the exclusive economic zone, which goes beyond the territorial sea, and cover all the natural extension of the land territory of the Republic of Cameroon up to the farthest limit permitted by international laws.

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## Chapter VI Miscellaneous and final provisions

Section 15. (1) The geographical coordinates which make it possible to determine the geodesics constituting the baselines of the territorial sea, the external limit of the territorial sea, the external limit of the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf shall be determined by decree of the President of the Republic.

(2) The absence of the above-mentioned decree shall not restrict the scope of the rights which the Republic of Cameroon may exercise in its

maritime areas in accordance with international law.

Section 16. This law repeals all previous repugnant thereto, in particular, the provisions of Law No. 74-16 of December 1974 fixing the limit of the territorial waters of the United Republic of Cameroon.

Section 17. This law [shall] take effect from 19 November 1985, the date of ratifications by the Republic of Cameroon of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982.