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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL USES OF THE
SEA-BED AND THE OCEAN FLOOR BEYOND
THE LIMITS OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION
SUB-COMMITTEE II

Working Paper submitted by the Delegations of Australia
and Norway containing Certain Basic Principles on an
Economic Zone and on Delimitation

1. ECONOMIC ZONE

- A. The coastal state has the right to establish, beyond its territorial sea, in accordance with these principles, an (economic zone - patrimonial sea) in which it shall have sovereign rights over the natural resources for the primary benefit of its people and its economy.
- B. The natural resources of the (economic zone - patrimonial sea) comprise the renewable and non-renewable natural resources of the waters, the seabed and the subsoil thereof.
- C. The coastal state has the right to determine the outer limit of the (economic zone - patrimonial sea) up to a maximum distance of 200 nautical miles from the applicable baselines for measuring the territorial sea. However the coastal state has the right to retain, where the natural prolongation of its land mass extends beyond the (economic zone - patrimonial sea), the sovereign rights with respect to that area of the seabed and the subsoil thereof which it had under international law before the entry into force of this convention: such rights to not extend beyond the outer edge of the continental margin.
- D. In the (economic zone - patrimonial sea) ships and aircraft of all states, whether coastal or not, shall enjoy the right of freedom of navigation and overflight.

2. DELIMITATION

- A. Adjacent and opposite states shall use their best endeavours to reach agreement on the delimitation between them of their (economic zones - patrimonial seas) and their seabed areas in accordance with equitable principles.
- B. Where there is an agreement between the states concerned, questions relating to the delimitation of their (economic zones - patrimonial seas) and their seabed areas shall be determined in accordance with the provisions of that agreement.
- C. No state shall by reason of this Convention claim or exercise rights over the natural resources of any area of the seabed and subsoil over which another state had under international law immediately before the coming into force of this convention sovereign rights for the purposes of exploring it or exploiting its natural resources.
- D. Subject to principles A, B and C above, and unless the drawing up of another boundary is justified by special circumstances, the boundary shall be an equidistant line in the case of adjacent coasts and a median line in the case of opposite coasts.