

No. 13550

**DENMARK
and
CANADA**

**Agreement relating to the delimitation of the continental
shelf between Greenland and Canada (with annexes).
Signed at Ottawa on 17 December 1973**

Authentic texts: Danish, English and French.

Registered by Denmark on 19 September 1974.

**DANEMARK
et
CANADA**

**Accord relatif à la délimitation du plateau continental entre
le Groenland et le Canada (avec annexes). Signé à
Ottawa le 17 décembre 1973**

Textes authentiques: danois, anglais et français.

Enregistré par le Danemark le 19 septembre 1974.

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA RELATING TO THE DELIMITATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF BETWEEN GREENLAND AND CANADA

The Government of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Government of Canada,

Having decided to establish in the area between Greenland and the Canadian Arctic Islands a dividing line beyond which neither Party exercising its rights under the Convention on the Continental Shelf of April 29, 1958,² will extend its sovereign rights for the purpose of exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of the continental shelf,

Have agreed as follows:

Article I. The dividing line in the area between Greenland and the Canadian Arctic Islands, established for the purpose of each Party's exploration and exploitation of the natural resources of that part of the continental shelf which in accordance with international law appertains to Denmark and to Canada respectively, is a median line which has been determined and adjusted by mutual agreement.

Article II. 1. In implementation of the principle set forth in article I, the dividing line in the area between latitude 61°00' N and latitude 75°00' N (Davis Strait and Baffin Bay) shall be a series of geodesic lines joining the following points:

*[The table of co-ordinates is published in the Danish authentic text.
See pages 148-149 of this volume.]*

The positions of the above-mentioned points have been computed from straight baselines along the coast of the Canadian Arctic Islands and of Greenland.

This part of the dividing line is illustrated on the chart attached to this Agreement as annex 1.³

2. In "Nares Strait" the dividing line shall be two series of geodesic lines joining the following points:

*[The table of co-ordinates is published in the Danish authentic text.
See page 150 of this volume.]*

The positions of the above-mentioned points are defined by latitude and longitude on Canadian Hydrographic Service Charts 7071 of July 31, 1964 and 7072 of April 30, 1971.

¹ Came into force on 13 March 1974 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Copenhagen, in accordance with article VII(2).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 499, p. 311.

³ See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

This part of the dividing line has been drawn on the charts attached to this Agreement as annexes 2 and 3.¹

3. That portion of the dividing line joining point 113 to point 114 is a geodesic line.

4. For the time being the Parties have not deemed it necessary to draw the dividing line further north than point No. 127 or further south than point No. 1. The dividing line is illustrated on the plan attached to this Agreement as annex 4.¹

Article III. In view of the inadequacies of existing hydrographic charts for certain areas and failing a precise determination of the low-water line in all sectors along the coast of Greenland and the eastern coasts of the Canadian Arctic Islands, neither Party shall issue licences for exploitation of mineral resources in areas bordering the dividing line without the prior agreement of the other Party as to exact determination of the geographic co-ordinates of points of that part of the dividing line bordering upon the areas in question.

Article IV. 1. The Parties undertake to co-operate and to exchange all relevant data and measurements with a view to obtaining and improving the hydrographic and geodetic knowledge necessary for more precise charting and mapping of the region covered by this Agreement. When knowledge is obtained enabling the Parties to estimate the datum shift between the 1927 North American Datum and the Qornoq Datum, the geographic coordinates of points listed in article II shall be adjusted and re-listed in relation to both the 1927 North American Datum and the Qornoq Datum.

2. If new surveys or resulting charts or maps should indicate that the dividing line requires adjustment, the Parties agree that an adjustment will be carried out on the basis of the same principles as those used in determining the dividing line, and such adjustment shall be provided for in a Protocol to this Agreement.

Article V. If any single geological petroleum structure or field, or any single geological structure or field of any other mineral deposit, including sand and gravel, extends across the dividing line and the part of such structure or field which is situated on one side of the dividing line is exploitable, wholly or in part, from the other side of the dividing line, the Parties shall seek to reach an agreement as to the exploitation of such structure or field.

Article VI. Should international law concerning the delimitation of national jurisdiction over the continental shelf be altered in a manner acceptable to both Parties which could have an effect upon the dividing line in the area between 67° and 69° North latitude, each of the Parties shall waive jurisdiction over any part of the continental shelf which appertains to the other Party on the basis of the new agreed rules of international law concerning the delimitation of national jurisdiction over the continental shelf.

Article VII. 1. This Agreement is subject to ratification. Instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Copenhagen as soon as possible.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

¹ See inserts in a pocket at the end of this volume.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized for this purpose by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement and affixed thereto their seals.

DONE in two copies at Ottawa in the English, French and Danish languages, each version being equally authentic, this 17th day of December, 1973.

For the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark:

H. HJORTH-NIELSEN

For the Government of Canada:

MITCHELL SHARP
