

No. 21424

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**URUGUAY  
and  
ARGENTINA**

**Treaty concerning the Río de la Plata and the corresponding  
maritime boundary. Signed at Montevideo on 19 Novem-  
ber 1973**

*Authentic text: Spanish.*

*Registered by Uruguay on 17 December 1982.*

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**URUGUAY  
et  
ARGENTINE**

**Traité concernant le Rio de la Plata et la frontière maritime  
y afférente. Signé à Montevideo le 19 novembre 1973**

*Texte authentique : espagnol.*

*Enregistré par l'Uruguay le 17 décembre 1982.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

## TREATY<sup>1</sup> CONCERNING THE RÍO DE LA PLATA AND THE CORRESPONDING MARITIME BOUNDARY

The Governments of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay and the Argentine Republic, motivated by the same spirit of friendship and harmony as characterized the Ramírez-Sáenz Peña Protocol of 1910 and was reaffirmed by the Joint Declaration on the Outer Limit of the Río de la Plata of 1961 and the Río de la Plata Protocol of 1964, motivated also by the common desire to remove the difficulties which might arise from any absence of precise legislation with regard to the exercise of their equal rights over the Río de la Plata and from the failure to define the limit between their respective maritime jurisdictions, and determined to lay the bases for broader co-operation between the two countries and strengthen the close bonds of traditional friendship and deep affection that join their peoples, have decided to conclude a treaty which will resolve these issues once and for all according to the special characteristics of the river and maritime territories involved and the technical requirements of their full use and exploitation, within the context of respect for the sovereignty and respective rights and interests of the two States.

For this purpose they have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Eastern Republic of Uruguay: Dr. Juan Carlos Blanco, Minister for Foreign Affairs; and  
The Argentine Republic: Mr. Alberto J. Vignes, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship; who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

### PART ONE. RÍO DE LA PLATA

#### *Chapter I. JURISDICTION*

*Article 1.* The Río de la Plata extends from the Punta Gorda parallel to the imaginary straight line joining Punta del Este (Eastern Republic of Uruguay) to Punta Rasa del Cabo San Antonio (Argentine Republic), in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty concerning the boundary constituted by the River Uruguay of 7 April 1961<sup>2</sup> and the Joint Declaration on the Outer Limit of the Río de la Plata, of 30 January 1961.

*Article 2.* A belt of exclusive jurisdiction is hereby established adjacent to each Party's coasts on the river.

This coastal belt shall be 7 nautical miles wide between the outer limit of the river and the imaginary straight line joining Colonia (Eastern Republic of Uruguay) to Punta Lara (Argentine Republic), and 2 nautical miles wide from this latter line to the Punta Gorda parallel. However, its outer limits shall be inflected as necessary so that they do not go beyond the edges of channels in waters shared by the Parties and so that port access channels are included.

Such limits shall be no closer than 500 metres to the edges of channels situated in shared waters, nor shall they be more than 500 metres from the edges and the mouth of port access channels.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 12 February 1974 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Buenos Aires, in accordance with article 92.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 635, p. 91.

*Article 3.* Outside the coastal belts, each Party's jurisdiction shall also apply to vessels flying its flag.

The same jurisdiction shall also apply to vessels flying the flags of third parties involved in accidents with that Party's vessels.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the first and second paragraphs, the jurisdiction of one Party shall apply in all cases in which its security is affected or in which unlawful acts are committed which have effect in its territory, regardless of the flag flown by the vessel involved.

Where the security of both Parties is affected or the unlawful act has effect in both territories, the jurisdiction of the Party whose coastal belt is closer than that of the other Party to the place where the vessel was apprehended shall apply.

*Article 4.* In cases not covered in article 3 and without prejudice to the specific provisions of other articles of this Treaty, the jurisdiction of either Party shall apply according to the criterion of greater proximity of one or the other coastal belt to the place in which the events in question occur.

*Article 5.* The supervising authority which discovers an unlawful act may pursue the offending vessel up to the limit of the coastal belt of the other Party.

If the offending vessel enters that coastal belt, the co-operation of the other Party shall be sought and that Party shall in all cases hand over the offender so that he can be brought before the authority which initiated the pursuit.

*Article 6.* The authorities of one Party may seize a vessel flying the flag of the other Party when the latter is caught in flagrant violation of the provisions governing fishing, conservation and preservation of living resources, and pollution, in force in their shared waters and shall notify that Party immediately and place the offending vessel at the disposal of its authorities.

## Chapter II. NAVIGATION AND WORKS

*Article 7.* Each Party shall, permanently and in all circumstances, recognize the freedom of navigation throughout the river of vessels flying the other's flag.

*Article 8.* The Parties hereby undertake to maintain the facilities which they have thus far accorded one another for access to their respective ports.

*Article 9.* The Parties hereby undertake to develop appropriate navigation aids and buoying in their respective coastal belts and to co-ordinate the development of such aids and buoying in their shared waters, outside of channels, in order to facilitate navigation and ensure its safety.

*Article 10.* The Parties shall be entitled to use, on equal terms and in all circumstances, all channels situated in their shared waters.

*Article 11.* In shared waters the navigation of public and private vessels of the countries of the Río de la Plata Basin and public and private merchant vessels flying the flags of third countries shall be permitted, without prejudice to the rights already granted by the Parties under existing treaties. Furthermore, each Party shall permit the passage of warships flying the flags of third countries and authorized by the other Party, provided that this does not adversely affect its public policy or security.

*Article 12.* Outside the coastal belts, the Parties may either jointly or individually build channels or other types of works in accordance with the provisions of articles 17 to 22.

The Party which builds or has built a work shall be responsible for its maintenance and administration.

The Party which builds or has built a channel shall likewise draw up the corresponding regulations, monitor compliance therewith by the appropriate means and be responsible for the extraction, removal and demolition of vessels, naval artifacts, aircraft, shipwreck or cargo remains and any other objects which constitute an obstacle or a threat to navigation and have sunk or run aground in that channel.

*Article 13.* In cases not covered by article 12, the Parties shall co-ordinate, through the Administrative Commission, the reasonable sharing of responsibilities for the maintenance, administration and regulation of the different sections of channels, taking into account the special interests of each Party and the works carried out by each of them.

*Article 14.* All regulations governing channels situated in shared waters and their substantial or permanent modification shall be enacted following consultation with the other Party.

In no case and under no circumstances may any regulations cause significant damage to the navigation interests of either of the Parties.

*Article 15.* Civil, criminal and administrative liability deriving from factors which adversely affect navigation in a channel, the use of such channel or its installations shall fall within the competence of the authorities of the Party which maintains and administers the channel and shall be governed by its legislation.

*Article 16.* The Administrative Commission shall share between the Parties the obligation to extract, remove or demolish vessels, naval artifacts, aircraft, shipwreck or cargo remains or any other objects which constitute an obstacle or a threat to navigation and have sunk or run aground outside of channels, taking into account the criterion established in article 4 and the interests of each Party.

*Article 17.* If one Party plans to build new channels, substantially modify or alter existing ones or carry out any other works, it shall notify the Administrative Commission, which shall determine on a preliminary basis and within a maximum period of 30 days whether the plan might cause significant damage to the navigation interests of the other Party or the régime of the river.

If the Commission finds this to be the case and if agreement cannot be reached in that regard, the Party concerned shall notify the other Party of the plan through the same Commission.

Such notification shall specify the main aspects of the work and, where appropriate, how it is to be carried out and any other technical data enabling the notified Party to assess the probable impact of such works on navigation or the régime of the river.

*Article 18.* The notified Party shall have a period of 180 days in which to respond concerning the plan, starting from the date on which its delegation to the Administrative Commission receives the notification.

Should the documentation referred to in article 17 be incomplete, the notified Party shall have 30 days in which to so inform, through the Administrative Commission, the Party which plans to carry out the work.

The period of 180 days mentioned above shall begin only on the day on which the delegation of the notified Party receives the full documentation.

This period may be extended at the discretion of the Administrative Commission if the complexity of the plan so requires.

*Article 19.* If the notified Party raises no objections or does not respond within the period established in article 18, the other Party may carry out or authorize the planned work.

The notified Party shall also be entitled to choose to participate on an equal footing in carrying out the work, in which case it shall so notify the other Party, through the Administrative Commission, within the period referred to in the preceding paragraph.

*Article 20.* The notified Party shall have the right to inspect the works being carried out in order to determine whether they conform to the submitted plan.

*Article 21.* Should the notified Party come to the conclusion that the execution of the work or the programme of operations might cause significant damage to navigation in or the régime of the river, it shall so notify the other Party, through the Administrative Commission, within the period of 180 days established in article 18.

Such notification shall specify which aspects of the work or the programme of operations might cause significant damage to navigation in or the régime of the river, the technical reasons on which this conclusion is based and the changes suggested to the plan or programme of operations.

*Article 22.* Should the parties fail to reach agreement within a period of 180 days from the notification referred to in article 21, the procedure indicated in Part Four (Settlement of Disputes) shall be followed.

### *Chapter III. PILOTAGE*

*Article 23.* The profession of pilot on the river shall be exercised only by qualified pilots authorized by the authorities of one or the other of the Parties.

*Article 24.* Any vessel departing from an Argentine or Uruguayan port shall take on a pilot of the nationality of the port of departure.

Vessels coming from outside the river shall take on a pilot of the nationality of the port of destination.

No contact which the vessel may have, outside port, with the authority of either of the Parties shall alter the criterion originally followed to determine the nationality of the pilot.

In other cases not envisaged above, the pilot may be of either Argentine or Uruguayan nationality without distinction.

*Article 25.* Once they have completed their pilotage tasks, Argentine and Uruguayan pilots may disembark freely in the ports of either Party entered by the vessels in which they fulfilled those tasks.

The Parties shall extend to the above-mentioned pilots all necessary facilities for the optimum performance of their duties.

*Article 26.* The Parties shall establish, in their respective regulations, parallel norms governing pilotage in the river and the régime of exemptions.

### *Chapter IV. PORT FACILITIES, UNLOADING AND ADDITIONAL LOADING*

*Article 27.* The Parties hereby undertake to conduct the necessary studies and take the necessary steps to ensure the maximum efficiency of their port services, in order to offer optimum performance and safety conditions, and to expand the facilities which they accord each other in their respective ports.

*Article 28.* Without prejudice to the provisions of article 27, cargo unloading and additional loading tasks shall be carried out exclusively in the areas established by the Administrative Commission according to technical and safety requirements with regard to pollutant or dangerous cargoes.

There shall always be an equal number of areas situated off the coast of each Party but outside their respective coastal belts.

*Article 29.* The areas referred to in article 28 may be used by either Party without distinction.

*Article 30.* The authorities of the Party for whose port the unloaded cargo is bound shall supervise unloading operations.

*Article 31.* The authorities of the Party from whose port the additional cargo comes shall supervise additional cargo loading operations.

*Article 32.* In cases where the ports of destination and origin of the cargo belonged to third States, unloading and additional cargo loading operations shall be supervised by the Argentine and Uruguayan authorities according to whether they are carried out in areas closer to one or the other Party's coastal belt, in conformity with the provisions of article 28.

#### *Chapter V. SAFEGUARDING OF HUMAN LIFE*

*Article 33.* Outside of the coastal belts, the authority of the Party which initiates a search and rescue operation shall direct that operation.

*Article 34.* The authority initiating a search and rescue operation shall immediately notify thereof the competent authority of the other Party.

*Article 35.* When the magnitude of the operation so warrants, the authority of the Party which is directing the operation may request assistance from the authority of the other Party, while maintaining control of the operation and undertaking to provide information on its progress.

*Article 36.* When, for whatever reason, the authority of one Party cannot initiate or continue a search and rescue operation, it shall request the authority of the other Party to take over the direction and conduct of that operation, extending it all possible co-operation.

*Article 37.* Surface or air units of either Party engaged in search and rescue operations may enter or leave either territory without fulfilling the normal formalities.

#### *Chapter VI. SALVAGING*

*Article 38.* A vessel flying the flag of one of the Parties outside the coastal belts may be salvaged by the authority or corporations of either Party, at the choice of the captain or owner of the stricken vessel, without prejudice to the provisions governing such choice set forth in the domestic regulations of each Party.

However, the task of salvaging a vessel flying the flag of either of the Parties and stricken in a channel located in their shared waters shall be carried out by the authority or corporations of the Party administering that channel when the stricken vessel constitutes an obstacle or a threat to navigation in the channel.

*Article 39.* The salvaging of a vessel flying the flag of a third State shall be carried out by the authority or corporations of the Party whose coastal belt is closest to the place where the vessel requesting assistance is located.

However, the task of salvaging a vessel flying the flag of a third State and stricken in a channel located in their shared waters shall be carried out by the authority or corporations of the Party administering that channel.

*Article 40.* Without prejudice to articles 38 and 39, when the authority or corporations of the Party responsible for salvaging are unable to perform that task, it may be carried out by the authority or corporations of the other Party.

The inability to salvage referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be communicated immediately to the other Party.

#### *Chapter VII. BED AND SUBSOIL*

*Article 41.* Each Party may explore and exploit the resources of the bed and subsoil of the river in the areas adjacent to its own coastline, up to the line determined by the

following geographical points traced on the charts made by the Uruguayan-Argentine Joint Commission for the Comprehensive Surveying of the Río de la Plata, published by the Naval Hydrographic Service of the Argentine Republic, which form part of this Treaty:

CHART H-118, SECOND EDITION 1972

<i>Points</i>	<i>Latitude south</i>	<i>Longitude west</i>
1	33° 55' 0	58° 25' 3
2	33° 57' 3	58° 24' 3
3	34° 00' 0	58° 22' 6
4	34° 02' 3	58° 20' 7
5	34° 06' 2	58° 20' 0
6	34° 07' 4	58° 19' 4
7	34° 09' 0	58° 19' 0
8	34° 10' 0	58° 17' 6
9	34° 12' 0	58° 15' 1
10	34° 13' 3	58° 12' 5
11	34° 15' 2	58° 10' 0
12	34° 17' 7	58° 05' 5
13	34° 20' 0	58° 03' 9
14	34° 21' 7	58° 01' 2
15	34° 22' 8	58° 00' 6
16	34° 26' 6	57° 56' 4
17	34° 33' 0	57° 56' 1
18	34° 40' 0	57° 57' 1

CHART H-117, SECOND EDITION 1973

<i>Points</i>	<i>Latitude south</i>	<i>Longitude west</i>
19	34° 47' 0	57° 32' 0
20	34° 52' 0	57° 20' 0
21	35° 11' 0	57° 00' 0

CHART H-113, FIRST EDITION 1969

<i>Points</i>	<i>Latitude south</i>	<i>Longitude west</i>
22	35° 10' 3	56° 43' 0
23	35° 38' 0	55° 52' 0

*Article 42.* Installations or other works required for the exploration or exploitation of the resources of the bed and subsoil shall not interfere with navigation on the river in the passages or channels normally used.

*Article 43.* Any mineral deposit which extends on both sides of the line established in article 41 shall be mined in such a way that the volumes of the resource extracted from that deposit are shared proportionally to the overall volume of the deposit to be found on each side of the line.

Each Party shall mine such deposits without causing significant damage to the other Party and in accordance with the requirements of a thorough and rational use of the resource in keeping with the criterion established in the preceding paragraph.

#### *Chapter VIII. ISLANDS*

*Article 44.* Existing islands or those which may emerge in future in the river shall belong to one or the other Party according to whether they are situated on one or the

other side of the line indicated in article 41, with the exception of Martín García Island, which shall be governed by the provisions of article 45.

*Article 45.* Martín García Island shall be used exclusively as a nature reserve for the conservation and preservation of indigenous fauna and flora, under the jurisdiction of the Argentine Republic, without prejudice to the provisions of article 63.

*Article 46.* If Martín García Island becomes joined to another island in the future, the corresponding boundary shall be drawn following the outline of Martín García Island yielded by chart H-118 referred to in article 41. However, any increase in the land mass of Martín García Island as a result of alluvium, which affects its present natural means of access to the Martín García (Buenos Aires) and Infierno channels, shall belong to the Island.

#### *Chapter IX. POLLUTION*

*Article 47.* For the purposes of this Treaty, pollution shall mean the direct or indirect introduction by man into the aquatic environment of substances or energy which have harmful effects.

*Article 48.* Each Party undertakes to protect and preserve the aquatic environment and, in particular, to prevent its pollution, by enacting appropriate rules and adopting appropriate measures in accordance with applicable international agreements and adjusted, where relevant, to the guidelines and recommendations of international technical bodies.

*Article 49.* The Parties undertake not to reduce in their respective legal systems:

- (a) The technical requirements in force for preventing water pollution, and
- (b) The severity of the penalties established for violations.

*Article 50.* The Parties undertake to inform one another of any rules which they plan to enact with regard to water pollution.

*Article 51.* Each Party shall be liable to the other for damage inflicted as a result of pollution caused by its own activities or by those of individuals or legal entities domiciled in its territory.

*Article 52.* The jurisdiction of each Party with regard to any violation of pollution laws shall be exercised without prejudice to the rights of the other Party to obtain compensation for the losses it has suffered as a result of such violation.

The Parties shall co-operate with one another to this end.

#### *Chapter X. FISHING*

*Article 53.* Each Party shall enjoy exclusive fishing rights in its own coastal belt indicated in article 2.

Outside the coastal belts, each Party shall grant to vessels flying the other's flag the freedom to fish in the river.

*Article 54.* The Parties shall agree on rules governing fishing activities in the river with regard to the conservation and preservation of living resources.

*Article 55.* When the volume of fishing activity so requires, the Parties shall agree on maximum catches per species and the corresponding periodic adjustments. Such catches shall be shared equally between the Parties.

*Article 56.* The Parties shall exchange relevant information regularly on fishing activities and catches per species and the list of vessels authorized to fish in their shared waters.

### Chapter XI. RESEARCH

*Article 57.* Each Party shall be entitled to conduct scientific studies and research throughout the river, provided that it gives advance notice to the other Party, indicating the nature of such studies and research, and informs that Party of the results obtained.

Each Party shall, moreover, be entitled to participate in all phases of any study or research undertaken by the other Party.

*Article 58.* The Parties shall promote the conduct of joint, mutually beneficial scientific studies and, in particular, studies for the comprehensive surveying of the river.

### Chapter XII. ADMINISTRATIVE COMMISSION

*Article 59.* The Parties hereby set up a joint commission, to be called the Administrative Commission of the Río de la Plata, consisting of an equal number of representatives from each Party.

*Article 60.* The Administrative Commission shall be given legal status in order to perform its functions. The Parties shall provide it with the necessary resources and all the information and facilities essential to its operations.

*Article 61.* The Administrative Commission may set up whatever technical bodies it deems necessary.

It shall function on a permanent basis and shall have its own secretariat.

*Article 62.* The Parties shall agree, by exchange of notes, on the Statute of the Administrative Commission. The Commission shall draw up its own rules of procedure.

*Article 63.* The Parties hereby agree to assign Martín García Island as the headquarters of the Administrative Commission.

The Administrative Commission shall have the necessary premises and land for its operations and shall build and administer a park dedicated to the memory of the heroes common to both peoples, respecting the jurisdiction and the use agreed to in article 45. The Argentine Republic shall have the necessary premises, facilities and land for the exercise of its jurisdiction.

The corresponding headquarters agreement shall include provisions regulating the relationship between the Argentine Republic and the Commission, on the basis of which the headquarters assigned in accordance with the first paragraph of this article shall be protected by immunity and the other privileges established by international law.

*Article 64.* The Administrative Commission shall, in due course, conclude agreements with both Parties specifying the privileges and immunities granted to its members and staff under international law.

*Article 65.* For the adoption of decisions of the Administrative Commission, each delegation shall have one vote.

*Article 66.* The Administrative Commission shall perform the following functions:

- (a) Promote the joint conduct of scientific studies and research, with special reference to the evaluation, conservation, preservation and rational exploitation of living resources and the prevention and elimination of pollution and other harmful effects which may derive from the use, exploration and exploitation of the waters of the river;
- (b) Enact rules regulating fishing activities in the river with regard to the conservation and preservation of living resources;
- (c) Co-ordinate regulations governing pilotage;

- (d) Co-ordinate the adoption of joint plans, handbooks, terminology and means of communication for search and rescue operations;
- (e) Establish the procedure to follow and the information to provide in cases where the units of one Party participating in search and rescue operations enter or leave the territory of the other Party;
- (f) Determine the formalities to fulfil in cases where materials for the conduct of search and rescue operations must be introduced, on a temporary basis, into the territory of the other Party;
- (g) Co-ordinate navigation aids and buoying;
- (h) Establish unloading and additional loading areas in accordance with article 28;
- (i) Transmit as soon as possible to the Parties any communications, consultations, information and notifications which they may send one another in accordance with Part One of this Treaty;
- (j) Perform any other functions assigned to it by this Treaty and those which the Parties may agree to entrust to it in its Statute or through an exchange of notes or other form of agreement.

*Article 67.* The Administrative Commission shall report periodically to the Governments of both Parties on the progress of its activities.

### *Chapter XIII.* CONCILIATION PROCEDURE

*Article 68.* Any dispute which may arise between the Parties concerning the Río de la Plata shall be considered by the Administrative Commission at the proposal of either Party.

*Article 69.* If the Commission is unable to arrive at an agreement within a period of 120 days, it shall so notify the two Parties which shall attempt to resolve the issue by means of direct negotiations.

## PART TWO. MARITIME BOUNDARY

### *Chapter XIV.* MARITIME LATERAL LIMIT

*Article 70.* The maritime lateral limit, and that of the continental shelf, between the Eastern Republic of Uruguay and the Argentine Republic shall be the line of equidistance determined by the adjacent coasts method, starting from the mid-point of the baseline constituted by the imaginary straight line joining Punta del Este (Eastern Republic of Uruguay) to Punta Rasa del Cabo San Antonio (Argentine Republic).

*Article 71.* A mineral deposit which extends on both sides of the limit established in article 70 shall be mined in such a way that the volumes of the resource extracted from that deposit are shared proportionally to the overall volume of the deposit to be found on each side of that limit.

Each Party shall mine such mineral deposits without causing significant damage to the other Party and in accordance with the requirements of a thorough and rational use of the resource in keeping with the criterion established in the first paragraph.

### *Chapter XV.* NAVIGATION

*Article 72.* Both Parties hereby guarantee freedom of navigation on and flight over the seas under their respective jurisdiction beyond 12 nautical miles measured from the corresponding baselines and, in the mouth of the Río de la Plata, from its outer limit, without any restrictions other than those deriving from the exercise by each Party of its

powers with regard to the exploration, conservation and exploitation of resources; environmental protection and preservation; scientific research and the construction and installation of facilities; and the powers referred to in article 86.

#### Chapter XVI. FISHING

*Article 73.* The Parties hereby agree to establish a common fishing zone, beyond 12 nautical miles measured from the corresponding coastal baselines, for duly registered vessels flying their flag. Such zone shall be that determined by two arcs of circumferences of a radius of 200 nautical miles, the centres of which are located at Punta del Este (Eastern Republic of Uruguay) and Punta Rasa del Cabo San Antonio (Argentine Republic) respectively.

*Article 74.* Catch volumes per species shall be shared equitably, and in proportion to the fish resources of each Party evaluated according to scientific and economic criteria.

Any volume which either Party authorizes vessels flying the flag of third States to catch shall be charged to that Party's quota.

*Article 75.* The areas established in fishing licences issued by the Argentine Republic and the Eastern Republic of Uruguay to vessels flying the flags of third States in their respective maritime jurisdictions may not extend beyond the line established in article 70.

*Article 76.* The Parties shall exercise the corresponding control and supervision on both sides, respectively, of the line referred to in article 75 and shall co-ordinate such functions as required.

The Parties shall exchange the list of vessels flying their respective flags and operating in the common zone.

*Article 77.* In no case shall the provisions of this chapter apply to the capture of aquatic mammals.

#### Chapter XVII. POLLUTION

*Article 78.* The discharge of hydrocarbons coming from the cleaning of tankers, the draining of bilges and the removal of ballast and, in general, any other action which could cause pollution is hereby prohibited in the area between the following imaginary lines:

- (a) From Punta del Este (Eastern Republic of Uruguay) to
- (b) A point at latitude 36° 14' south, longitude 53° 32' west; from here to
- (c) A point at latitude 37° 32' south, longitude 55° 23' west; from here to
- (d) Punta Rasa del Cabo San Antonio (Argentine Republic) and, finally, from here to the initial point at Punta del Este.

#### Chapter XVIII. RESEARCH

*Article 79.* Each Party shall authorize the other to conduct studies and research of a purely scientific nature in its respective maritime jurisdiction, within the common zone established in article 73, provided that the other Party has given it adequate advance notice and has indicated the nature of the studies or research to be carried out and the areas and periods of time in which they are to be conducted.

Such authorization shall be denied only in exceptional circumstances and for limited periods.

The authorizing Party shall be entitled to participate in all phases of such studies and research and to be informed of and have access to their results.

*Chapter XIX. JOINT TECHNICAL COMMISSION*

*Article 80.* The Parties hereby set up a Joint Technical Commission, consisting of an equal number of representatives from each Party, which shall be responsible for conducting studies and adopting and co-ordinating plans and measures for the conservation, preservation and rational exploitation of living resources and the protection of the marine environment in the common zone established in article 73.

*Article 81.* The Joint Technical Commission shall be given legal status in order to perform its functions and shall have the necessary funds for these purposes.

*Article 82.* The Joint Technical Commission shall perform the following functions:

- (a) Establish and periodically adjust catch volumes per species and share them between the Parties in accordance with the provisions of article 74;
- (b) Promote the joint conduct of scientific studies and research, particularly in the common zone, with special reference to the evaluation, conservation, preservation and rational exploitation of living resources and the prevention and elimination of pollution and other harmful effects which may derive from the use, exploration and exploitation of the marine environment;
- (c) Make recommendations and submit projects for ensuring that the value and balance of bio-ecological systems are maintained;
- (d) Establish standards and measures for the rational exploitation of species in the common zone and the prevention and elimination of pollution;
- (e) Draw up plans for the preservation, conservation and development of living resources in the common zone, for consideration by the Governments of the two Parties;
- (f) Promote studies and present projects for harmonizing the laws of the two Parties governing matters with which the Commission is entrusted;
- (g) Transmit as soon as possible to the Parties any communications, consultations and information which they may exchange in accordance with Part Two of this Treaty;
- (h) Perform any other functions which the Parties may assign to it in its Statute or through an exchange of notes or other form of agreement.

*Article 83.* The Joint Technical Commission shall have its headquarters at the city of Montevideo, but may meet in the territories of either Party.

*Article 84.* The Parties shall agree, by exchange of notes, on the Statute of the Joint Technical Commission. The Commission shall draw up its own rules of procedure.

## PART THREE. DEFENCE

*Chapter XX*

*Article 85.* Matters relating to the defence of the entire Río de la Plata focal area shall fall within the exclusive competence of the Parties.

*Article 86.* In exercising its right of self-defence in the face of a threat of aggression, each Party may adopt the necessary transitional measures to that end in the focal area, outside the respective coastal belts of exclusive jurisdiction in the Río de la Plata and a belt of 12 nautical miles measured from the respective coastal baselines of the territorial sea, without causing significant damage to the other Party.

## PART FOUR. SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

*Chapter XXI*

*Article 87.* Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Treaty which cannot be settled by direct negotiations may be submitted by either of the Parties to the International Court of Justice.

In the cases referred to in articles 68 and 69, either Party may submit any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Treaty to the International Court of Justice, when it has not been possible to settle the dispute within a period of 180 days following the notification referred to in article 69.

## PART FIVE. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

*Chapter XXII. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS*

*Article 88.* Until such time as the Administrative Commission establishes the unloading and additional loading areas referred to in article 28, the following areas are hereby established for this purpose:

- Area A: between the parallels latitude 35°04' south and 35°08' south and the meridians longitude 56°00' and 56°02' west;
- Area B: between the parallels latitude 35°30' and 35°33' south and the meridians longitude 56°30' and 56°36' west.

*Article 89.* The Administrative Commission shall be set up within 60 days following the exchange of the instruments of ratification of this Treaty.

*Article 90.* The Parties shall publicize in due course, in the corresponding nautical maps, the line marking the maritime lateral limit.

*Article 91.* The Joint Technical Commission shall be set up within 60 days following the exchange of the instruments of ratification of this Treaty.

*Chapter XXIII. RATIFICATION AND ENTRY INTO FORCE*

*Article 92.* This Treaty shall be ratified in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Parties' respective legal systems and shall enter into force by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at the city of Buenos Aires.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the above-mentioned plenipotentiaries hereby sign and seal two identical copies at the city of Montevideo on 19 November 1973.

[JUAN CARLOS BLANCO]

[ALBERTO J. VIGNES]