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Multilateral

Declaration recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, in conformity with Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice. Sofia, 27 November 2015

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Multilatéral

Déclaration reconnaissant comme obligatoire la juridiction de la Cour internationale de Justice, conformément au paragraphe 2 de l'article 36 du Statut de la Cour internationale de Justice. Sofia, 27 novembre 2015

Entrée en vigueur : *2 décembre 2015*

Texte authentique : *anglais*

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Sofia, 27 November 2015

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria adopted on 5 November 2015 a Law which modifies the Declaration made by the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on 24 June 1992 concerning the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court. The Law was published in the State Gazette No. 89 of 17 November 2015.

In accordance with the provisions of this Law, the Declaration made by the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria on 24 June 1992 is modified as follows:

After the expression “**except for**” the following text is to be inserted: **“disputes arising under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea or any other multilateral or bilateral treaty or agreement on the law of the sea, or customary international law on the sea, including but not limited to disputes concerning navigational rights, exploration and exploitation of living and non-living natural resources, protection and preservation of the marine environment, delimitation of maritime boundaries and areas, and for”**.

Thereby, the consolidated text of the Declaration of the Republic of Bulgaria recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Court should read as follows:

“In conformity with Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice the Republic of Bulgaria recognizes as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special agreement, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the jurisdiction of the Court in all legal

disputes arising out of facts and situations subsequent to or continuing to exist after the entry into force of the present Declaration, concerning:

1. the interpretation of a treaty;
2. any question of international law;
3. the existence of any fact which, if established, would constitute a breach of an international obligation;
4. the nature or extent of the reparation to be made for the breach of an international obligation,

except for disputes arising under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea or any other multilateral or bilateral treaty or agreement on the law of the sea, or customary international law on the sea, including but not limited to disputes concerning navigational rights, exploration and exploitation of living and non-living natural resources, protection and preservation of the marine environment, delimitation of maritime boundaries and areas, and for disputes with any State which has accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute less than twelve months prior to filing an application bringing the dispute before the Court or where such acceptance has been made only for the purpose of a particular dispute.

The Republic of Bulgaria also reserves the right at any time to modify the present Declaration, the modifications taking effect six months after the deposit of the notification thereof.

The present Declaration shall be in force for a period of five years from the date of its deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. It shall continue in force thereafter until six months after a notice of its denunciation is given to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.”

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.