

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the Embassy of Ukraine and, concerning the continuing validity between Turkey and Ukraine of the agreements on Black Sea maritime delimitation reached between Turkey and the former USSR, has the honour to inform the Embassy of the following.

The following agreements between Turkey and the former USSR also concern Ukraine. These agreements remain in effect.

-Agreement on the Delimitation of the Continental Shelf in the Black Sea between Turkey and the USSR, 23 June 1978.

-Agreement on the Delimitation of the Turkish and Soviet Exclusive Economic Zones in the Black Sea (effected through an exchange of notes in 23.12.1986 and 6.2.1987)

With the demise of the USSR as a subject of international law, three Black Sea states bordering Turkey have been established.

According to international law, agreements delimiting borders and determining border regimes are not affected by changes in the state which has jurisdiction over that territory. The validity and binding nature of the agreement signed by the previous state remains in force.

In the discussions held on March 8-9, 1994 in Ankara between Turkey and Ukraine, the latter declared that the two Agreements mentioned above were in effect and valid, and an agreement in the form of an exchange of notes to confirm this understanding was agreed upon.

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As a result, following the arrangements and agreements to be reached between Ukraine, the Russian Federation and Georgia on the delimitation of the maritime areas which lie to the north of the border stipulated in the two agreements mentioned above, Turkey's common borders with these three states along the Continental Shelf and Exclusive Economic Zone border lines agreed upon in the Agreements between Turkey and the former USSR, will have been defined.

The Republic of Turkey requests that Ukraine confirm and declare that the aforementioned two agreements remain binding and valid between Turkey and Ukraine.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Ukraine the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ankara, 1994