page 1| Delimitation Treaties Infobase | accessed on 13/03/2002

Maritime Delimitation Treaty between the Federative Republic of Brazil and the French Republic (30 January 1981)

The President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Mr. Joao Baptista de Oliveira Figueiredo,

The President of the French Republic, Mr. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing,

Desiring to encourage the broadest possible development of the relations of friendship and good-neigbourliness that exist between their countries,

Aware of the need to establish precisely the maritime delimitation between the French Republic off the coast of the Department of Guyane and the Federative Republic of Brazil including that of the continental shelf,

Basing themselves on the relevant rules and principles of international law and taking into account the work of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea,

Taking into account the provisions of the Treaty of Utrecht of 11 April 1713, the decision of the Arbitral Tribunal of the Swiss Federal Council of 1 December 1900 and the application of the latter by the French-Brazilian Joint Commission on Border Delimitation following the negotiations held at Paris from 24 to 28 September 1979 and at Brasélia from 19 to 23 January 1981,

Have decided to conclude this Treaty and for that purpose have designated

The President of the Federative Republic of Brazil:

Mr. Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs,

The President of the French Republic:

Mr. Jean-FranÇois Poncet, Minister for Foreign Affairs,

who have agreed on the following provisions:

Article 1

1. The maritime delimitation line, including that of the continental shelf, between the French Republic off the coast of the Department of Guyane and the Federative Republic of Brazil shall be determined by the true azimuth loxodromic curve 41° 30' starting from a point at latitude 4° 30.5' north and longitude 51° 38.2' west. This azimuth and these co-ordinates relate to the Brazilian geodetic reference system "Datum Horizontal - Corrego Alegre".

2. Brazilian nautical map No. 110, first published on 27 April 1979 and used in the work of the sixth conference of the French-Brazilian Joint Commission on Border Delimitation, was drawn up in the above geodetic system.

3. The starting point defined in this article is the intersection of the border in the Bay of Oyapock established at the fifth conference of the Joint Commission with the line closing that bay established at the sixth conference of that Commission.

Article 2

Any dispute which may arise between the Parties concerning the interpretation or application of this Treaty shall be settled by the peaceful means recognized by international law.

Article 3

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

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned have signed this Treaty and have thereto affixed their seals.

DONE at Paris on 30 January 1981 in two original copies, each in the French and Portuguese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

DOALOS/OLA - UNITED NATIONS