

Legislative Decree No. 2 of 24 February 1977
concerning the establishment of an Economic Zone

Article 1

The Economic Zone of the Republic of Cuba shall be established in the zone adjacent to its territorial sea extending up to a distance of 200 nautical miles measured from the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured. The outer line of this Economic Zone shall be traced on the basis of geographical coordinates.

The Cuban State shall respect the equal rights of contiguous States to their respective economic zones and declares that it is prepared to undertake bilateral negotiations on the conflicts of law that may result from the application of those principles.

Article 2

The Republic shall exercise the following rights in the Economic Zone established by this Legislative Decree:

- I. Sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring, exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, whether living or non-living, or the seabed, including its subsoil, and of the superjacent waters.
- II. Exclusive rights and jurisdiction with regard to the establishment and use of artificial islands, installations and structures.
- III. Exclusive jurisdiction with regard to other activities for the economic exploration and exploitation of the zone, including the use of marine currents and anything else that facilitates scientific and technological developments.
- IV. Jurisdiction with regard to:
 - (a) The preservation of the marine environment, including pollution control and abatement;
 - (b) Scientific research.

Article 3

Foreign States shall enjoy in the Economic Zone the freedoms of navigation and overflight and of the laying of submarine cables and pipelines and other internationally lawful uses of the sea related to navigation and communication.

Article 4

In order to promote the optimum utilization of the living resources in the Economic Zone, the Republic of Cuba, through the conclusion of appropriate agreements, shall give other States access to the surplus of the allowable catch of the species concerned, in accordance with the arrangements, conditions and regulations in force.

Article 5

Any legal provisions and regulations at variance with the provisions of the present Legislative Decree, which shall come into force as soon as it is published in the Gaceta Oficial of the Republic, are hereby abrogated.