



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES

Note No. 107853/09

9 June 2009

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and has the honour to bring to his attention, in his capacity as depositary of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the following statement of the Government of the Republic of Mauritius with respect to the Note No. 26/09 dated 19 March 2009 from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius wishes to reiterate in very emphatic terms that it does not recognize the so-called "British Indian Ocean Territory", which was established by the unlawful excision in 1965 of the Chagos Archipelago from the territory of Mauritius, in breach of the United Nations Charter and United Nations General Assembly resolution 1514 (xv) of 14 December 1960, resolution 2066 (xx) of 16 December 1965 and resolution 2357 (xxii) of 19 December 1967.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius has, over the years, consistently asserted, and hereby reasserts, its complete and full sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, including maritime zones generated from the Chagos Archipelago, which forms part of the national territory of Mauritius.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius strongly believes that the protest raised by the United Kingdom against the deposit by Mauritius of the geographical coordinates reported in Circular Note M.Z.N. 63.2008-LOS of 27 June 2008 has no legal basis inasmuch as the Chagos Archipelago forms an integral part of the territory of Mauritius. The Government of the Republic of Mauritius further wishes to refer to its Note No. 4780/04 (NY/UN/562) dated 14 April 2004 in which it protested strongly against the deposit by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland of a list of geographical coordinates of points defining the outer limits of the so-called Environment (Protection and Preservation) Zone.

The Government of the Republic of Mauritius would appreciate if the above declaration could be duly recorded, circulated and published in the Law of the Sea Bulletin No. 70, the Law of the Sea Information Circular and any other relevant publication issued by the United Nations.

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mauritius to the United Nations avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.



Secretary-General of the United Nations
UN Headquarters
New York