Pacific Maritime Boundaries

& the UNGGIM IGIF-Hydro

"effective and integrated marine geospatial information management"

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Boundaries & Limits in the Pacific

Complete definitions of Territorial Sea Baseline/ Maritime Zones

Declare the Territorial Sea Baseline/ Maritime Zones in National Legislation

Deposit the coordinates defining the Territorial Sea Baseline/ Maritime Zones jurisdictions at the UN – fulfil obligations as State parties to the UNCLOS Convention (Article 16, Article 75 respectively)
Base points of low water line surveyed and identified

Identify the physical location of the most seaward low water feature
Baseline developed

Use the location of the basepoints on low water line to identify straight baselines or closing lines for reefs, bays and rivers where appropriate according to UNCLOS.
Pathway to Maritime Zones (3)

3

Archipelagic status assessed

Assess whether the use of archipelagic baselines is appropriate
Pathway to Maritime Zones (4a)

Maritime limits calculated

Calculate outer limits of the exclusive economic zone. Identify the potential for making a submission to the limits of the Continental Shelf regarding the continental shelf beyond 200Mds.
Pathway to Maritime Zones (5)

**Areas in need of maritime boundaries delimitation identified**

Identify areas of overlap maritime claims with neighbouring States which will require negotiation.
**Pathway to Maritime Boundary Treaty**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Negotiation of maritime boundary&lt;br&gt;Technical and legal discussions to reach agreement on maritime boundary line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Charts &amp; schedule of coordinates prepared&lt;br&gt;Agree boundary line is reflected in draft treaty (including indicative charts and schedule of coordinates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Draft treaty approved for signature&lt;br&gt;Domestic process in each country to approve the draft treaty for signature</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Maritime boundary treaty signed&lt;br&gt;Formal signature of treaty by two countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Boundary agreement implemented&lt;br&gt;Boundary treaty limits implemented in domestic laws (refer to Maritime Zone Pathway steps 7 and 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Entry into force&lt;br&gt;Complete steps required by treaty to bring it into force, can include exchange of diplomatic notes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Treaty document registered with United Nations Secretary&lt;br&gt;Signed treaty document is registered with the UN Secretary (Treaty Section OF OLA) under Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Treaty charts and schedule of coordinates deposited with United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea Office of Legal Affairs&lt;br&gt;Charts and schedule of coordinates deposited with UN DOALOS after treaty documents are lodged with UN treaty section</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Publication&lt;br&gt;Publish official maritime boundary information for all marine users</td>
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</table>

Consider whether maritime boundary delimitation is required for any segment of outer limit

A need for maritime boundary delimitation? Refer to Treaty Pathway
Harmonize legislation

Legislate to allow for the declaration of relevant limits and baselines by location, make consequential amendments to dependent acts (fisheries, resources)
Declare baselines and limits

Declare maritime limits, agreed boundaries, archipelagic baselines and other baselines as necessary.
Baselines and limits deposited

Deposit information regarding baselines outer limits of maritime zones, including lines of delimitation with the Secretary - General of the United Nations (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea Office of Legal Affairs (OLA/DOALOS) under UNCLOS
Pathway to Maritime Zones (10)
Maritime Boundaries Agreed & Signed

Fiji and Solomon Islands – 11 July 2022
Data management and tools

SPC Pacific Data Hub Portal

Welcome to the Pacific Maritime Boundaries Dashboard

This dashboard is the regional platform for sharing progress and relevant information on Pacific island maritime boundaries and zones. The information displayed has been prepared and deposited with the United Nations by Pacific Island Countries and Territories with support from the Pacific Maritime Boundaries Consortium of Partners and through the Pacific Maritime Boundaries Program.

What are maritime boundaries?

Maritime zones and boundaries offer economic, social, cultural, and sustainable development opportunities to coastal states around the world. From territorial waters (12NM), to exclusive economic zones (200NM), to extended continental shelf areas, these zones determine what it is within the sovereign rights and responsibilities of a country under the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Clearly defined maritime zones underpin the governance, peace and security, marine conservation, and natural resource management of the Blue Pacific. By defining and declaring their maritime zones, Pacific island countries are contributing toward Strategic Priority 1 of the Pacific Oceanscape Framework as well as achieving Sustainable Development Goal Target 14.6: enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of oceans and their resources by implementing UNCLOS.

https://pacificdata.org/dashboard/maritime-boundaries
Collaborations

Service Level Agreement - Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS)
The Pacific Solutions to Save Our Ocean - Integrated Ocean Management Programme aims to leverage the spate of national ocean policies (NOPs) launched in the Pacific in recent years to address the need for greater integrated ocean management (IOM). This programme is endorsed by the Ocean Decade and seeks to increase scientific capacity and create opportunities for ocean science to feed into decision making.
Partnerships
Pacific Maritime Boundaries Working Sessions
CLIMATE AND SECURITY

Climate change remains the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of the peoples of the Pacific

Boe Declaration on Regional Security, September, 2018
“We are committed to a collective effort, including to develop international law, with the aim to ensure that once a Forum Member’s maritime zones are delineated in accordance with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), that the Member’s maritime zones could not be challenged or reduced as a result of sea level rise and climate change.”
Thank You

FRAMEWORK FOR A PACIFIC OCEANSCAPE
Priority 1

TARGET 14.C
Implement international law: UN Convention on the Law of the Sea