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Oceans and the law of the sea

Letter dated 1 August 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing to you in relation to the maritime notification issued by the Republic of Turkey to conduct seismic surveying in the Mediterranean Sea with the Turkish ship *Oruç Reis*, which was announced, along with the relevant coordinates, through the Turkish Anatolia station.

The Arab Republic of Egypt objects to point (8) of the announced coordinates in the maritime notification, which overlaps with the exclusive economic zone of Egypt in contravention of international law and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. This move violates Egypt's sovereign rights within its exclusive economic zone in the Mediterranean Sea, and Egypt therefore emphasizes its full rejection of any outcomes or results that may arise owing to the work in the overlapping area.

The Arab Republic of Egypt would like to recall that, pursuant to article 310 of the Convention, it deposited a declaration with the United Nations on the exercise of its rights in the exclusive economic zone on 11 July 1983.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 74, and published on the website of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, as well as in the next edition of the *Law of the Sea Bulletin*.

(Signed) Mohamed Edrees
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

