

**Ordinance No. 85-013 determining the limits of the maritime zones  
(territorial sea, continental shelf and exclusive economic zone)  
of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, 16 September 1985  
as amended and ratified by Law No. 85-013 of 11 December 1985)**

**Article 1**

The territorial sea of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar in which the State shall exercise its sovereignty shall extend to a limit of 12 nautical miles measured from the baselines.

**Article 2**

The baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured shall be determined by decree.

**Article 3**

The Democratic Republic of Madagascar establishes a contiguous zone of 24 nautical miles measured from the baselines and can take within this limit all necessary measures to prevent infringement of its customs, fiscal, immigration or sanitary laws and regulations, and punish infringement of such laws and regulations.

**Article 4**

The exclusive economic zone of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar shall extend to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured.

Should the distance between the baseline of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar and those of one or several adjacent States be less than 400/nautical miles, the respective exclusive economic zones shall be delimited by agreement with the State or States concerned.

**Article 5**

The exclusive economic zone shall comprise the sea-bed and its subsoil and the superjacent waters within the limits defined in article 4.

Within this zone, the Democratic Republic of Madagascar shall exercise:

(1) Sovereign and exclusive rights for the purpose of exploring and exploiting, conserving and managing the natural resources, whether living or non-living, of the waters superjacent to the sea-bed and of the sea-bed and its subsoil, and with regard to other activities for the economic exploitation and exploration of the zone, such as the production of energy from the water, currents and winds;

(2) Jurisdiction with regard to: the establishment and use of artificial islands, installations and structures; marine scientific research; and the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

**Article 6**

No exploration or exploitation of the zone defined in article/4 may be undertaken by nationals of a third State without authorization by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar.

### Article 7

The continental shelf of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar shall comprise the sea-bed and its subsoil beyond the territorial sea to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured, or to the limit determined by agreement with adjacent States, or else to 100 nautical miles from the 2,500-metre isobath.

### Article 8

The internal maritime waters of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar where the State shall exercise its sovereignty shall be comprised between the following limits:

On the seaward side, the straight baseline used to calculate the breadth of the territorial sea as defined by decree No. 63-131 of 27 February 1963;

On land, the high-water mark.

### Article 9

Within the meaning of this Ordinance, the high-water mark shall mean the furthest point reached by the sea at the highest tides, barring exceptional storms, both along the coasts and in bays, roadsteads, ports and harbours, as well as in canals, channels, salines, lagoons and ponds communicating with the sea, and, in the case of rivers, the transversal limit of the sea.

### Article 10

At the mouths of rivers, the limit of the sea is constituted by a fictitious line forming the prolongation of the coastline on either side of the river mouth, except in the case of the rivers designated in the next article.

### Article 11

In certain estuaries and rivers used for navigation by sea-going vessels, the limit of the sea shall be moved upstream as far as the first natural or artificial obstacle to the passage of such vessels. The limit for each river is indicated in the table below.

<u>Name of river</u>	<u>Designation of limits</u>	<u>Co-ordinate of the Laborde grid</u>
Ambazoana	Ambatoharanana Bridge	X = 644,200
	RIGN No. 11	Y = 1 393,500
	Ambanja Bridge	X = 618,200
		Y = 1 376
Djangoa	Ambanja Road Bridge	X = 605,800
	Maromandia	Y = 1 365,400
Andranomalaza	Maromandia Ferry	X = 578
	Maromandia Road	Y = 1 318,500
	Befotaka Ferry	X = 572,400
		Y = 1 283,500
Laloza	Port of Antsohihy	X = 566,200

		Y = 1 245,500
Mahajamba	Junction of the Mahajamba and Mahajambakely Rivers	X = 472,500 Y = 1 163,400
Andranoboka	Village of Andranoboka	X = 448 Y = 1 163
Estuary of the	West of Marovoay Betsiboka	X = 418 Y = 1 107
Namakia	Village of Namakia	X = 335,800 Y = 1 130,200
Andemaka	Village of Andemaka	X = 322 Y = 1 144
Mahavavy	Manakara Bridge on the Mahavavy River	X = 341,500 Y = 1 128
Andasibe-Mahombo	Village of Ankasakasa	X = 232 Y = 1 080
Sambao	Junction of the Sambao and Koja Rivers	X = 199 Y = 1 050
Manongoza	Besalampy Bridge	X = 193 Y = 1 037,800
Ranobe	Village of Berevo on the Ranobe River	X = 170 Y = 985
Soaninana	Village of Soatanana	X = 189 Y = 814
Tsiribihina	Belo on the Tsiribihina	X = 202 Y = 709
Antanambalana	Village of Ambinanitelo	X = 734 Y = 1 170

### Article 12

In the rivers and streams enumerated in article 11, the limit of the sea shall be the higher of the following lines:

- (a) The line reached by the highest regular tide;
- (b) The line reached by the highest periodic and seasonal tides.

### Article 13

The geometric pitch zone as determined in article 4 C - 36 of Ordinance No. 60-099 of 21 September 1960 shall not apply along the rivers and streams enumerated in article 11 above or to the waters referred to in article 9

above.

**Article 14**

All provisions contrary to those of this Ordinance, and in particular those of Ordinance No. 73-060 of 28 September 1973 determining the limits of the territorial sea and continental shelf of the Malagasy Republic, shall be abrogated.

**Article 15**

This Ordinance shall be published in the Official Journal of the Republic.

It shall be carried out as a State law.

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