

BENIN

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Mar 1968	Decree No. 74	12nm	
	Apr 1976	Decree No. 76-92	*200nm	<p>Claimed total sovereignty over waters, airspace, and resources.</p> <p><i>This claim is not recognized by the U.S. U.S. protested claim in 1989 and conducted operational assertions in FY 1981, 1987-89, and 1991 (overflights).</i></p> <p>* [In December 1998, a representative of the Benin Foreign Ministry provided an informal statement to U.S. State Department that Benin now claims a 12nm territorial sea and a 200nm EEZ. However, the 1976 decree remains on the UN Law of the Sea website, and the UN continues to list the claim as 200nm.]</p>
ARCHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Apr 1976	Decree No. 76-92		In estuaries, territorial sea measured from navigational obstacle located farthest offshore.
CONTINENTAL SHELF	Mar 1968	Decree No. 74	100nm	Claimed "all underground exploitation rights."
	Apr 1976	Decree No. 76-92	200nm	Superseded Decree No. 74 by inference.
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Mar 1968	Decree No. 74	12nm	Fishing zone; claimed "all underwater exploitation rights."
	Apr 1976	Decree No. 76-92	200nm	Fishing zone; foreign fishing prohibited without authorization.
LOS CONVENTION	Aug 1983			Signed Convention.
	Oct 1997			Ratified Convention; bound by Part XI Agreement.