

ANGOLA

SUMMARY OF CLAIMS

TYPE	DATE	SOURCE	LIMITS	NOTES
TERRITORIAL SEA	Aug 1992	Law No. 21/92 on the Internal Waters, Territorial Sea & EEZ	12nm	Rolls back excessive territorial sea claim from 20nm to 12nm. Repeals Decree Law No. 159 of Nov 1975.
ARHIPELAGIC, STRAIGHT BASELINES, & HISTORIC CLAIMS	Jun 1967	Portugal Decree Law 47,771		Pre-independence, Portuguese legislation specifying straight baselines. (See LIS No. 28 , excerpted below, for U.S. analysis of straight baselines.)
	Aug 1992	Law No. 21/92 on the Internal Waters, Territorial Sea & EEZ		Reaffirms baselines set forth in Decree-Law No. 47, 771 of 27 June 1967.
CONTIGUOUS ZONE	Aug 1992	Law No. 21/92 on the Internal Waters, Territorial Sea & EEZ	24nm	Establishes a contiguous zone.
FISHING ZONE/EEZ	Aug 1992	Law No. 21/92 on the Internal Waters, Territorial Sea & EEZ	200nm	Establishes an EEZ.
LAW OF THE SEA CONVENTION	Dec 1982			Signed Convention, with Declaration reserving the right to interpret the Convention in the context of "Angolan sovereignty and territorial integrity."
	Dec 1990			Ratified Convention.
	Oct 2009	Declaration		Declarations regarding dispute settlement.
	Sep 2010			Bound by Part XI.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION

Following are extracts from Portuguese Decree No. 47,771 of 27 June 1967.

Article 1

On the continental European coast and the coasts of the provinces of Guinea, Angola and Mozambique, the normal baseline for measuring the breadth of the territorial sea, set forth in article 1 of Act 2130, shall be supplemented by the closing lines and straight baselines defined by the points whose geographic co-ordinates are given in the following tables:

(3) Closing lines and straight baselines which supplement the normal baseline in Angola:

ANGOLAN STRAIGHT CLOSING LINES		
POINTS	LATITUDE SOUTH	LONGITUDE EAST
Spilimberta Point	08° 35' 00"	13° 22' 15"
Point of Luanda Island	08° 45' 34"	13° 15' 43"
Point on Luanda Island	08° 47' 02"	13° 13' 54"

ANGOLAN STRAIGHT CLOSING LINES		
POINTS	LATITUDE SOUTH	LONGITUDE EAST
Point South of Mossulo Point	08° 52' 42"	13° 07' 42"
Giraul	15° 08' 02"	12° 06' 40"
Barreiras Brancas	15° 13' 00"	12° 04' 07"
Navio Beach	16° 14' 09"	11° 48' 00"
Point South of Marca Point	16° 32' 39"	11° 40' 20"

U.S. ANALYSIS

The following analysis of the Angolan straight baseline system is extracted from Limits in the Seas, No. 28, "Straight Baselines: Angola," of 10 November 1970.

The decree creates straight baselines which, in effect, enclose Luanda Harbour and its associated waters, the Bay (Baia de) Mossamedes, and the Bay (Baia dos) Tigres. The latter two bays are situated in southwestern Angola, near the South-West Africa frontier.

SEGMENT	LENGTH (NM)	COMMENTS
Ponta Spilimberta - unnamed point on Luanda Island	12.75	The line closes the Bay of Bengo situated to the northeast of Luanda. Bengo does not meet the semi-circularity requirement of the 1958 Geneva Convention on the Territorial Sea and Contiguous Zone to qualify as a bay even if the waters behind Luanda Island are included.
Unnamed point on Luanda Island - unnamed point south of Ponta Mussolo	8.25	The points chosen do not constitute the "natural closing points" of the bay; rather they extend beyond. However, the waters enclosed by the line would meet the criteria of a bay. It has not been determined if the two water bodies enclosed by the two segments could together be a legal bay. Luanda Island, however, cannot be said to fringe the coast.
Giraul - Barreiras Brancas	5.5	The southern point of this bay-closing line is beyond the natural closing point of the bay. It is a legal bay.
Praia do Navio - unnamed point south of Ponta da Marca	20.3	The enclosed Baia dos Tigres is a geographical and legal bay although the "natural entrance points" have not been utilized by the closing line. More logical selections would extend the line from Ponta da Marca eastward to the opposite shore. All of this shore north of the latter point faces on the Atlantic rather than the bay.

The four shore segments created by the decree total only 46.8 nautical miles in length. The total natural coast line of Angola, including Cabinda, is greater than 800 nautical miles. Relatively speaking, the baselines represent a very small portion of the coast, closing off natural indentations on an otherwise featureless shoreline.