MUL Application Supporting Attachments – 4.8 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and Maritime Jurisdiction Compliance

Client	University College Cork
Document Ref.	Attachment 4.8 UN Convention Law of the Sea and Maritime Jurisdiction Compliance
Project Title	UCC FLOWT-EOB MUL Application
Date	06/11/2026

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CONSISTENCY WITH UN CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA AND THE MARITIME JURISDICTION ACT

1.1 OVERVIEW

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)

Adopted in 1982 and effective since 1994, UNCLOS provides the overarching legal framework for ocean governance, including maritime zones, resource management, environmental protection, and the peaceful use of oceans. Ireland ratified UNCLOS in 1996 and has implemented its provisions through national legislation.

Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2021

This Act consolidates and updates Irish law on maritime boundaries and jurisdiction, defining:

- Internal waters
- Territorial sea (12 nautical miles)
- Contiguous zone
- Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) (up to 200 nautical miles)
- Continental shelf

It grants the State rights and responsibilities for resource management, environmental protection, and enforcement within these zones.

1.2 COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

All proposed SI works are located within Ireland's territorial waters and respect the State's jurisdiction under national and international law.

All vessels involved in the SI works will adhere to the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGs) and standard maritime navigation and safety requirements.

Activities will not impede the right of innocent passage for any UN member state.

Pollution prevention measures have been incorporated to ensure no harm or contamination of the marine environment occurs, and all activities will be temporary, small-scale and reversible.

The proposed Maritime Usage is fully consistent with Ireland's obligations under UNCLOS and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2021.



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