

determination of the maritime boundary by the judicial forum. These fisheries arrangements and signature by the Parties of the treaty referring the boundary dispute to third party settlement will be mutually contingent i.e. neither is to come into force without the other. Both agreements are to be concluded by the end of 1987. The tribunal will be either the plenary of the International Court of Justice, a Chamber thereof or an ad hoc arbitral tribunal.

The January 24 agreement continues the arrangement made in 1984 to maintain a favourable atmosphere for the boundary negotiations. Both countries undertook to exercise mutual restraint and forego boarding and inspection of the other's vessels in the zone claimed mutually by Canada and France. This arrangement will remain in place until the rendering of an international judicial decision on the boundary.

Several rounds of negotiations on the Compromis and on interim fish quotas took place before they were interrupted by the French following the closure last March of Canadian ports (except in cases of emergency) and the fisheries in 3Ps to French fisheries vessels which were not abiding by Canada's fisheries management regime in the disputed area.

In August 1987, Prime Minister Mulroney and Prime Minister Chirac agreed to early resumption of negotiations on the January 24 program.