

Office of The Geographer and Global Issues
Department of State

Guidance Bulletin

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IRAQ/KUWAIT BOUNDARY

1. The international boundary to be depicted between Iraq and Kuwait is the one determined by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission and detailed in its final report of May 20, 1993.
2. The boundary is measured in 162 points between the Iraq/Kuwait/Saudi Arabia tripoint and the mouth of the Khawr 'Abd Allah in the Persian Gulf (see map). The coordinates of these points are given in the appendix that follows this guidance.
3. The boundary is to be depicted with the symbol of an international boundary on land from point number 1 through point number 135.
4. From point number 135 through point number 162, the boundary, if it is depicted, is to be shown as a **maritime** boundary, with a symbol distinctly different from that used for international boundaries on land.*

Background. In August 1990, Iraq invaded and seized Kuwait. The Iraqis were expelled in January-February 1991 by forces of a coalition of nations acting under the auspices of the United Nations. On April 3, 1991, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 687, which affirmed the commitment of all member states to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Kuwait and Iraq. Paragraph 2 of Resolution 687 demanded that Iraq and Kuwait respect the inviolability of the international boundary that had been agreed upon in the "Agreed Minutes Between the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Iraq Regarding the Restoration of Friendly Relations, Recognition and Related Matters," signed at Bagdad on October 4, 1963, and registered with the United Nations in accordance with article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Though agreed upon in 1963, the boundary had never been demarcated. In view of the pressing need for demarcation, the Security Council, in paragraph 3 of Resolution 687, called upon the Secretary-General to lend his assistance in

*The International Hydrographic Office symbol, No. 41, page 57, **column three**, Chart No. 1, *United States of America Nautical Symbols Abbreviations and Terms*, is recommended.

making arrangements with Iraq and Kuwait to demarcate the boundary between them. After consultations with the Governments of Iraq and Kuwait, the Secretary-General, on May 2, 1991, established the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission, composed of five members--three independent experts appointed by the Secretary-General, and one member each from Iraq and Kuwait.

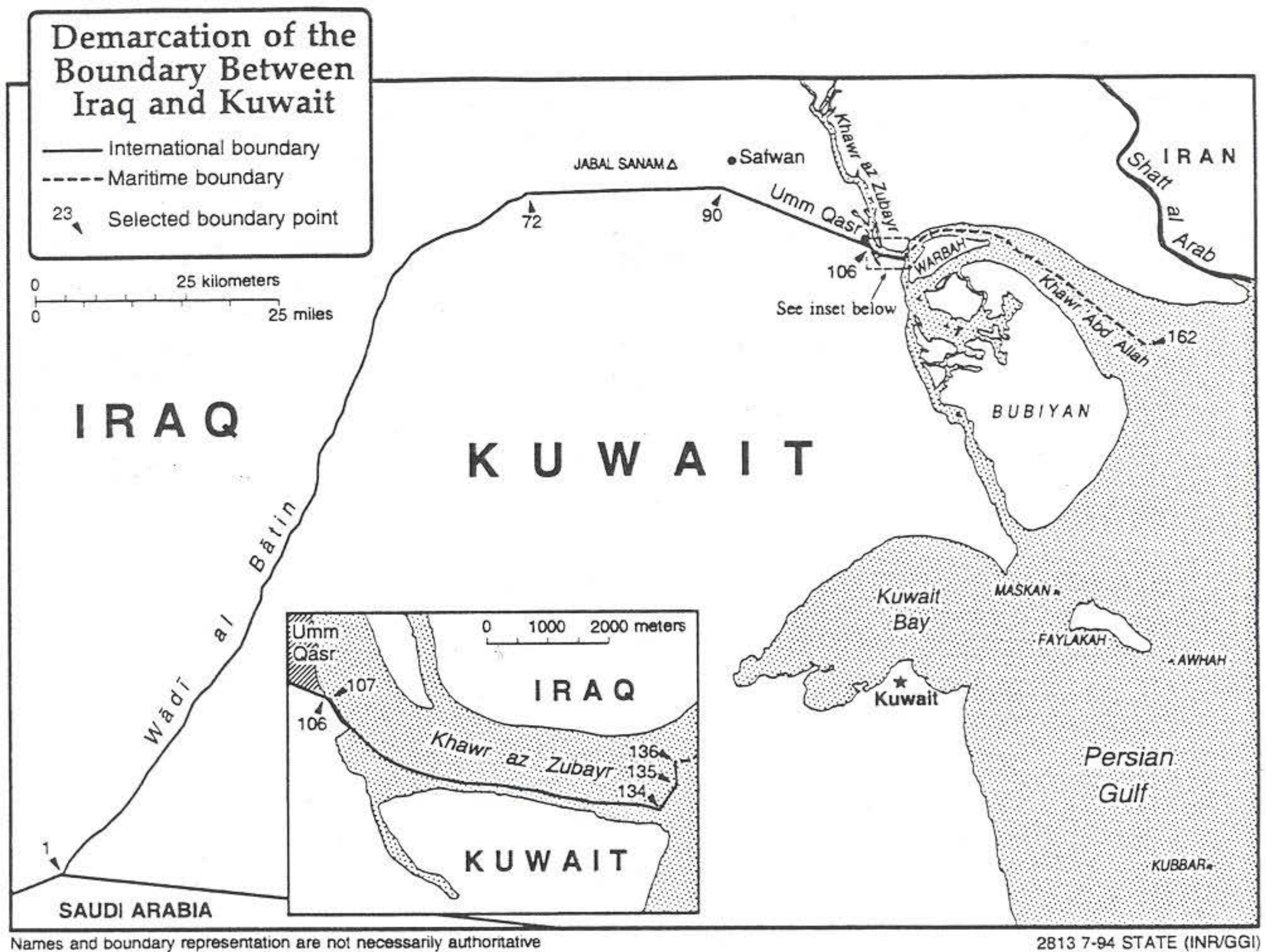
The United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission completed its work in May 1993. Its final report, dated May 20, 1993, was accepted by the UN Security Council in Resolution 833, dated May 27, 1993. The work of the Commission marked the first official demarcation of the boundary agreed upon in 1963. Certified copies of the Commission's report were given to both Iraq and Kuwait and a copy was retained in United Nations archives. Although the international community regards the demarcation as definitive, Iraq to date has not accepted it as the boundary.

The Iraq-Kuwait boundary begins in the west at a tripoint with Saudi Arabia established by Iraq and Saudi Arabia in 1981. From that point it follows the *thalweg* of the Wadi Al Batin northeastwards to the latitude of 30° 06' 13.3181" N. It follows this parallel to a point south of Safwan, pillar 90, at latitude 30° 06' 13.3181" N., longitude 47° 42' 27.6429" E. From there it follows a geodesic to a point south of Umm Qasr on the low water line of the Khawr az Zubayr, point 107, at latitude 30° 00' 30.6311" N, longitude 47° 57' 19.1337" E. From there, it follows the low water line along along the southern shore of the Khawr to a point opposite its junction with the Khawr 'Abd Allah. It connects from there to the junction point between the two khawrs and then, as a maritime boundary, follows a median line through the Khawr 'Abd Allah to a line connecting the points of significant change in direction of each shoreline. The boundary has been demarcated along its entire course, with 106 concrete pillars between the tripoint with Saudi Arabia and Umm Qasr, plaques on two jetties near Umm Qasr, and 54 other precisely measured turning points along the low water line of the Khawr az Zubayr and the median line of the Khawr 'Abd Allah.

Action. Please disseminate this guidance to all personnel in your organization concerned with cartographic production, international boundaries and sovereignty, or editing.



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Appendix

Coordinates of the Iraq/Kuwait Boundary

The following is a list of geographic coordinates for 162 points determined by the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission to demarcate the international boundary between the Republic of Iraq and the State of Kuwait in accordance with the Agreed Minutes of 4 October 1963. The list is divided into five sections, each representing a different segment of the boundary. Where necessary, for the sake of intervisibility, additional markers have also been established.

The reference system of the coordinates is the Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Datum 1992 (IKBD-92). The ellipsoid associated with the definition of IKBD-92 is the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84) ellipsoid defined by:

Semi major axis : 6378137.000 metres
Flattening : 1/298.257223563

A. Boundary coordinates in the Wadi Al Batin

The boundary in the Wadi Al Batin from pillar No. 1 to pillar No. 72 is a series of straight lines between boundary pillars conforming to the thalweg of the Wadi. Pillar No. 1 on the Iraq-Kuwait boundary is the existing pillar No. 1 on the boundary between Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Pillar No. 72 is located on the intersection of the thalweg of Wadi Al Batin and the line of latitude of the point south of Safwan.

Geographic coordinates:

Boundary point	Latitude	Longitude	Description
1	N 29° 06' 04.2128"	E 46° 33' 10.9431"	trijunction pillar
2	N 29° 06' 10.6747"	E 46° 33' 25.5664"	pillar
3	N 29° 07' 10.6940"	E 46° 34' 00.8825"	pillar
4	N 29° 08' 00.3923"	E 46° 34' 47.9228"	pillar
5	N 29° 08' 48.6806"	E 46° 35' 39.1756"	pillar
6	N 29° 09' 32.2099"	E 46° 36' 33.5084"	pillar
7	N 29° 10' 07.6002"	E 46° 37' 39.6466"	pillar
8	N 29° 10' 52.0411"	E 46° 38' 32.9901"	pillar
9	N 29° 11' 37.6791"	E 46° 39' 26.1431"	pillar
10	N 29° 12' 26.1698"	E 46° 40' 15.8391"	pillar
11	N 29° 13' 18.1397"	E 46° 41' 01.1813"	pillar
12	N 29° 14' 04.3933"	E 46° 41' 34.9432"	pillar
13	N 29° 15' 02.3669"	E 46° 42' 11.4675"	pillar
14	N 29° 15' 53.3557"	E 46° 42' 58.0267"	pillar
15	N 29° 16' 46.3911"	E 46° 43' 39.2978"	pillar
16	N 29° 17' 37.9173"	E 46° 44' 26.2600"	pillar
17	N 29° 18' 27.7745"	E 46° 45' 13.9179"	pillar
18	N 29° 19' 18.7152"	E 46° 46' 00.4511"	pillar
19	N 29° 20' 17.8310"	E 46° 46' 32.6872"	pillar
20	N 29° 21' 19.3027"	E 46° 47' 03.3099"	pillar
21	N 29° 22' 08.0505"	E 46° 47' 52.2213"	pillar
22	N 29° 22' 50.5997"	E 46° 48' 52.5327"	pillar
23	N 29° 23' 44.9223"	E 46° 49' 34.5663"	pillar

24	N 29° 24'	34.5568"	E 46° 50'	21.4483"	pillar
25	N 29° 25'	24.2107"	E 46° 51'	09.2409"	pillar
26	N 29° 26'	13.8315"	E 46° 51'	59.1625"	pillar
27	N 29° 27'	18.7699"	E 46° 52'	35.6475"	pillar
28	N 29° 28'	25.3036"	E 46° 53'	04.6798"	pillar
29	N 29° 29'	25.4178"	E 46° 53'	32.9392"	pillar
30	N 29° 30'	22.9330"	E 46° 54'	09.9808"	pillar
31	N 29° 31'	29.9866"	E 46° 54'	16.1735"	pillar
32	N 29° 32'	21.9653"	E 46° 55'	07.3294"	pillar
33	N 29° 33'	20.8033"	E 46° 55'	37.7202"	pillar
34	N 29° 34'	15.5616"	E 46° 56'	20.5211"	pillar
35	N 29° 35'	16.4170"	E 46° 56'	48.3296"	pillar
36	N 29° 36'	14.6575"	E 46° 57'	16.8024"	pillar
37	N 29° 37'	05.4477"	E 46° 58'	12.4297"	pillar
38	N 29° 38'	06.5060"	E 46° 58'	38.8663"	pillar
39	N 29° 38'	58.0957"	E 46° 59'	19.3217"	pillar
40	N 29° 39'	48.4222"	E 46° 59'	53.1945"	pillar
41	N 29° 41'	00.3660"	E 47° 00'	12.2819"	pillar
42	N 29° 42'	13.0994"	E 47° 00'	15.7699"	pillar
43	N 29° 43'	19.5829"	E 47° 00'	24.5714"	pillar
44	N 29° 44'	18.1467"	E 47° 01'	02.8779"	pillar
45	N 29° 45'	08.5000"	E 47° 01'	53.0614"	pillar
46	N 29° 46'	10.2530"	E 47° 02'	17.7614"	pillar
47	N 29° 47'	06.6325"	E 47° 02'	53.8648"	pillar
48	N 29° 48'	09.2729"	E 47° 03'	15.4290"	pillar
48a	N 29° 48'	25.8955"	E 47° 03'	23.7764"	intermediate marker
49	N 29° 49'	08.8932"	E 47° 03'	45.3724"	pillar
49a	N 29° 49'	50.7268"	E 47° 04'	09.6471"	intermediate marker
50	N 29° 50'	06.8587"	E 47° 04'	19.0096"	pillar
50a	N 29° 50'	17.5805"	E 47° 04'	25.4063"	intermediate marker
51	N 29° 51'	05.0040"	E 47° 04'	53.7046"	pillar
52	N 29° 52'	06.7624"	E 47° 05'	19.3202"	pillar
53	N 29° 53'	08.9919"	E 47° 05'	41.6386"	pillar
54	N 29° 54'	11.0843"	E 47° 06'	02.6154"	pillar
55	N 29° 55'	17.0251"	E 47° 06'	16.3831"	pillar
56	N 29° 56'	15.6444"	E 47° 06'	46.8197"	pillar
57	N 29° 57'	11.7890"	E 47° 07'	25.4123"	pillar
58	N 29° 58'	15.1655"	E 47° 07'	46.6825"	pillar
59	N 29° 59'	12.5391"	E 47° 08'	21.9329"	pillar
60	N 30° 00'	00.9556"	E 47° 09'	20.2023"	pillar
60a	N 30° 00'	14.2007"	E 47° 09'	33.2812"	intermediate marker

61	N 30° 01'	02.8841"	E 47° 10'	21.3655"	pillar
62	N 30° 01'	42.1161"	E 47° 11'	22.4627"	pillar
63	N 30° 02'	10.1485"	E 47° 12'	29.9656"	pillar
64	N 30° 02'	35.6610"	E 47° 13'	38.0981"	pillar
64a	N 30° 02'	48.2354"	E 47° 14'	26.0720"	intermediate marker
65	N 30° 02'	54.8419"	E 47° 14'	51.2858"	pillar
66	N 30° 03'	07.2870"	E 47° 16'	06.4092"	pillar
66a	N 30° 03'	14.7752"	E 47° 16'	27.8149"	intermediate marker
67	N 30° 03'	31.3604"	E 47° 17'	15.2386"	pillar
68	N 30° 04'	07.3734"	E 47° 18'	18.7972"	pillar
69	N 30° 04'	47.7218"	E 47° 19'	18.7703"	pillar
69a	N 30° 05'	16.1844"	E 47° 20'	01.9904"	intermediate marker
70	N 30° 05'	27.9778"	E 47° 20'	19.9024"	pillar
70a	N 30° 05'	40.7090"	E 47° 21'	07.0419"	intermediate marker
71	N 30° 05'	49.7839"	E 47° 21'	40.6563"	pillar
71a	N 30° 06'	05.4691"	E 47° 22'	04.6786"	intermediate marker
72	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 22'	16.7010"	pillar (northernmost point in Wadi Al Batin)

B. Boundary coordinates along the line of latitude of the point south of Safwan

The boundary continuing from pillar No. 72 to pillar No. 90 lies along the line of latitude of the point south of Safwan.

Geographic coordinates:

Boundary point	Latitude	Longitude	Description
72a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	intermediate marker
73	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	pillar
73a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	intermediate marker
74	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	pillar
74a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	intermediate marker
75	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	pillar
75a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	intermediate marker
76	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	pillar
76a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	intermediate marker
77	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	pillar
77a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	intermediate marker

78	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 29'	09.0860"	pillar
78a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 29'	28.6841"	intermediate marker
79	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 30'	15.8536"	pillar
79a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 30'	57.6225"	intermediate marker
80	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 31'	23.1982"	pillar
80a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 31'	56.6823"	intermediate marker
81	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 32'	26.9061"	pillar
81a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 33'	11.3945"	intermediate marker
82	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 33'	40.8425"	pillar
82a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 34'	14.5282"	intermediate marker
83	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 34'	55.4858"	pillar
83a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 35'	43.1244"	intermediate marker
84	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 36'	10.4403"	pillar
84a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 36'	48.9286"	intermediate marker
85	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 37'	24.6714"	pillar
85a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 37'	54.5241"	intermediate marker
86	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 38'	39.5006"	pillar
86a	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 39'	04.1408"	intermediate marker
87	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 39'	53.5651"	pillar
88	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 40'	45.0226"	pillar
89	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 41'	47.4709"	pillar
90	N 30° 06'	13.3181"	E 47° 42'	27.6429"	pillar (turning point south of Safwan)

C. Boundary coordinates along the geodesic between the point south of Safwan and the point south of Umm Qasr

The boundary continuing from pillar No. 90 to pillar No. 106 lies along the line of shortest distance (the geodesic).

Geographic coordinates:

Boundary point	Latitude	Longitude	Description
91	N 30° 06'	03.3807"	pillar
92	N 30° 05'	45.0600"	pillar
93	N 30° 05'	25.0544"	pillar
94	N 30° 05'	02.2409"	pillar
95	N 30° 04'	45.0505"	pillar

96	N 30° 04'	18.2073"	E 47° 47'	27.7801"	pillar
96a	N 30° 03'	58.9632"	E 47° 48'	17.8893"	intermediate marker
97	N 30° 03'	49.7978"	E 47° 48'	41.7481"	pillar
98	N 30° 03'	21.7283"	E 47° 49'	54.7898"	pillar
99	N 30° 02'	57.8345"	E 47° 50'	56.9334"	pillar
100	N 30° 02'	38.1990"	E 47° 51'	47.9797"	pillar
101	N 30° 02'	10.5648"	E 47° 52'	59.7867"	pillar
102	N 30° 01'	47.7924"	E 47° 53'	58.9307"	pillar
103	N 30° 01'	26.9252"	E 47° 54'	53.1031"	pillar
104	N 30° 01'	13.4491"	E 47° 55'	28.0759"	pillar
104a	N 30° 01'	01.4808"	E 47° 55'	59.1276"	intermediate marker
105	N 30° 00'	55.4621"	E 47° 56'	14.7405"	pillar
105a	N 30° 00'	51.0137"	E 47° 56'	26.2789"	intermediate marker
105b	N 30° 00'	47.0439"	E 47° 56'	36.5746"	plaque on road
105c	N 30° 00'	41.5522"	E 47° 56'	50.8166"	intermediate marker
105d	N 30° 00'	38.2514"	E 47° 56'	59.3757"	plaque on road
106	N 30° 00'	31.8988"	E 47° 57'	15.8470"	pillar south of Umm Qasr

D. Boundary coordinates along the low-water line between Umm Qasr and the junction of the Khowrs

Continuing from pillar No. 106, the boundary lies along the extension of the geodesic from pillar No. 90 to pillar No. 106. Boundary point No. 107 is at the intersection of this geodesic and the photogrammetric determination of the line of low water. Boundary point No. 134 lies at the point on the low-water line which is closest to the junction of the Khowrs (boundary point No. 135).

Geographic coordinates:

Boundary point	Latitude	Longitude	Description
107	N 30° 00' 30.6311"	E 47° 57' 19.1337"	low water point
108	N 30° 00' 25.5597"	E 47° 57' 22.1204"	plaque on jetty
109	N 30° 00' 20.1338"	E 47° 57' 26.6988"	low water point
110	N 30° 00' 17.0202"	E 47° 57' 27.9162"	plaque on jetty
111	N 30° 00' 07.3546"	E 47° 57' 38.5615"	low water point
112	N 30° 00' 04.0223"	E 47° 57' 43.0972"	low water point

113	N 30° 00' 02.4886"	E 47° 57' 45.0878"	low water point
114	N 29° 59' 59.9883"	E 47° 57' 50.2931"	low water point
115	N 29° 59' 54.3048"	E 47° 58' 00.0921"	low water point
116	N 29° 59' 51.1851"	E 47° 58' 07.3891"	low water point
117	N 29° 59' 48.5075"	E 47° 58' 15.0012"	low water point
118	N 29° 59' 45.9004"	E 47° 58' 23.9522"	low water point
119	N 29° 59' 44.0034"	E 47° 58' 34.7048"	low water point
120	N 29° 59' 42.9652"	E 47° 58' 41.8016"	low water point
121	N 29° 59' 40.8118"	E 47° 59' 01.6401"	low water point
122	N 29° 59' 39.9809"	E 47° 59' 05.2917"	low water point
123	N 29° 59' 38.3873"	E 47° 59' 15.6241"	low water point
124	N 29° 59' 37.0503"	E 47° 59' 26.0722"	low water point
125	N 29° 59' 35.7797"	E 47° 59' 28.9642"	low water point
126	N 29° 59' 33.5772"	E 47° 59' 37.8413"	low water point
127	N 29° 59' 30.9373"	E 47° 59' 51.7876"	low water point
128	N 29° 59' 30.8353"	E 47° 59' 55.2387"	low water point
129	N 29° 59' 29.7002"	E 48° 00' 04.7347"	low water point
130	N 29° 59' 27.9211"	E 48° 00' 23.7886"	low water point
131	N 29° 59' 27.4473"	E 48° 00' 31.1501"	low water point
132	N 29° 59' 27.0442"	E 48° 00' 33.8539"	low water point
133	N 29° 59' 25.6931"	E 48° 00' 37.8351"	low water point
134	N 29° 59' 23.6762"	E 48° 00' 42.0794"	low water point
135	N 29° 59' 37.4841"	E 48° 00' 53.4169"	junction of the Khowrs

E. Boundary coordinates from the junction of the Khowrs and along the median line of the Khowr Abd Allah

The boundary in the Khowr Abd Allah is the generalized median line as identified by the following coordinates. Boundary point No. 136 is located at the point on the generalized median line which lies closest to the junction of the Khowrs (boundary point No. 135).

Geographic coordinates:

Boundary point	Latitude	Longitude	Description
136	N 29° 59' 47.3389"	E 48° 00' 52.6840"	median point
137	N 29° 59' 47.9344"	E 48° 01' 03.2547"	median point
138	N 29° 59' 58.1832"	E 48° 01' 20.7047"	median point

139	N 30° 00'	26.1002"	E 48° 01'	50.4004"	median point
140	N 30° 00'	50.4002"	E 48° 02'	14.4005"	median point
141	N 30° 01'	09.0001"	E 48° 02'	39.0004"	median point
142	N 30° 01'	18.9000"	E 48° 03'	00.0002"	median point
143	N 30° 01'	33.5167"	E 48° 03'	41.3692"	median point
144	N 30° 01'	40.3556"	E 48° 04'	05.2773"	median point
145	N 30° 01'	45.5265"	E 48° 04'	34.0137"	median point
146	N 30° 01'	48.5499"	E 48° 05'	20.2407"	median point
147	N 30° 01'	47.7000"	E 48° 05'	53.7002"	median point
148	N 30° 01'	42.3674"	E 48° 06'	31.1234"	median point
149	N 30° 01'	39.9238"	E 48° 07'	16.8423"	median point
150	N 30° 01'	35.6000"	E 48° 08'	00.9000"	median point
151	N 30° 01'	32.7610"	E 48° 08'	47.0644"	median point
152	N 30° 01'	28.5001"	E 48° 09'	17.3994"	median point
153	N 30° 01'	19.5909"	E 48° 09'	51.7837"	median point
154	N 30° 00'	52.0000"	E 48° 11'	04.0000"	median point
155	N 30° 00'	18.0000"	E 48° 11'	41.0000"	median point
156	N 29° 59'	39.0021"	E 48° 12'	26.3921"	median point
157	N 29° 59'	04.8481"	E 48° 13'	41.3329"	median point
158	N 29° 58'	33.7229"	E 48° 14'	34.6628"	median point
159	N 29° 57'	54.1645"	E 48° 15'	17.7224"	median point
160	N 29° 57'	17.8346"	E 48° 16'	30.2549"	median point
161	N 29° 54'	25.3068"	E 48° 20'	16.4802"	median point
162	N 29° 51'	09.6324"	E 48° 24'	50.8383"	median point (terminus)