Oman's comments following S-23 WG Letter 01/2012

13 February 2012

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Sujet:RE: S-23 WG Letter 01/2012 - S-23 WG reporting to MS

Date :Mon, 13 Feb 2012 16:15:18 +0400

De :Thani Harith al Mahrouki <los@omantel.net.om>

Pour:'pac' <pac@ihb.mc>

Dear Michel,

It is suggested to add the comments expressed by the WG members on all issues and followed by the Chairs Group conclusion or interpretations. Although, it is understood that references have been indicated to various links but this method will allow interpretations/conclusions by the Chairs Group and States' expressions/opinions be better considered or understood.

It is expressed in paragraph 1.1 of the S-23 WG Letter 01/2012 that after 35 years, this work has yet to be completed. A Working Group was established since 2009, however, no decision was taken on the sea area between the Korean Peninsula and the Japanese Archipelago. At the end, the letter requested MS to provide their views on possible ways forward for progressing a new edition of S-23.

As it seems no progress will be made soon on the issue of this sea area. If no real progress is made what will be the status of S23? I suggest to ask the opinions of the WG which then should be reflected in the letter if it is considered appropriate. I am just raising the question with no opinion. I would also like to stress that Oman is in neutral position and supports further bilateral negotiations between the involved parties to reach consensus between them.

Kind regards,

Thani Harith al Mahrouki Oman