

中華人民共和國海事局

MARITIME SAFETY ADMINISTRATION OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

中國·北京建國門內大街 11 號 11 Jianguomennei Ave. Beijing, China

May 4, 2011

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS,
Chair of S-23 Working Group
President of International Hydrographic Bureau
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Comments by China on IHO S-23 WG Letter No. 02/2011

Dear Vice Admiral MARATOS,

With reference to S-23 WG Letter No.02/2011 dated on 21 March 2011, based on our comments before, China would like to re-emphasize the following viewpoints:

1. We insist that Decisions should generally be made by consensus. This principle has been clearly written in the RoPs of the S-23 WG since the WG established, and should be strictly complied faithfully. The WG should not make decision on issues without consensus.
2. China agreed with the following recognized by the WG:
 - a) The Beibu Gulf to be considered a sub-body of the South China Sea;
 - b) To alter the northern limit of the South China Sea, as proposed by China;
 - c) To remove Liaodong Wan as a sub-body of Bo Hai;
 - d) Bo Hai will be considered a separate body from Yellow Sea;
 - e) To adopt the line of demarcation between "Bo Hai" and "Yellow Sea" proposed by China;
 - f) Spelling corrections for various geographical names and the addition of new names in the South China Sea and East China Sea, as proposed by China.
3. Taiwan Dao. First of all, Taiwan island is the indivisible land domain of China and should be labeled totally in the same way as the other Chinese islands in the S-23. This issue involved nothing with the limits of oceans and seas, position of sovereignty should be fully respected by IHO and all WG member states. Moreover, in accordance with Resolution 4 of the 1st UNCSGN,

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1967 and Resolution 8 of the 3rd UNCSCGN, 1977, the geographical names must follow the local principle, and the Romanization name of a Chinese island should consist of the island's Chinese Phonetic Alphabet (Pinyin) name and the word "Dao". So, we insisted that Taiwan island be labeled as "Taiwan Dao".

Lastly, China would urge the IHO to respect and treat fairly comments and amendments offered by Member States. We hope the close cooperation amongst us could continue so as to move forward this common agenda.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Chen Aiping

Executive Director-General

Maritime Safety Administration of

The People's Republic of China