



Ministerio de Defensa
Servicio de Hidrografía Naval

REF: SIHN, HC4 N°04/11

BUENOS AIRES, February 07th, 2011.

Dear Vice Admiral Maratos,

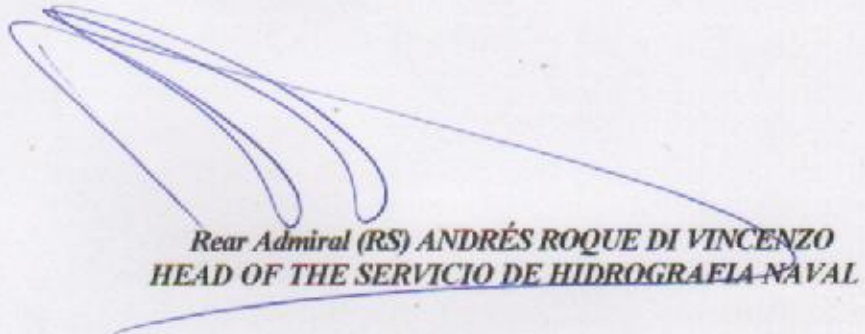
I address you in response to your letter 06/2010 dated 20 December 2010 regarding “WAY FORWARD TO PROGRESS S-23”.

First of all I would like to express my joy for the agreements arrived by the participants of the 2nd meeting of the WG regarding Malacca and Singapore Straits, South China Sea, East China Sea and Yellow Sea.

With regard to the sea area between the Korean Peninsula and the Japanese Archipelago, and considering that the Rules of Procedures states that decisions should generally be made by consensus, it is imperative that any proposal to be pushed forward should be supported by all the relevant parties.

Considering so, and the divergent positions expressed by the relevant parties, I regret to inform that I cannot support any proposal until that consensus can be obtained.

Sincerely yours,



Rear Admiral (RS) ANDRÉS ROQUE DI VINCENZO
HEAD OF THE SERVICIO DE HIDROGRAFIA NAVAL

Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos
Chairman of the S-23 Working Group
President of the INTERNATIONAL HYDROGRAPHIC BUREAU