



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Office of Coast Survey
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910-3282

JAN 20 2011

Vice Admiral Alexandros MARATOS
Chairman of the Working Group on the Revision of Special Publication 23
International Hydrographic Bureau
4 quai Antoine 1er
B.P. 445
MC 98011 MONACO CEDEX

Dear VADM Maratos:

From a purely technical perspective, the U.S. supports the proposed "way forward" in naming the sea area between the Korean Peninsula and the Japanese Archipelago. Revision of IHO Publication S-23 has been under repeated consideration for several decades initiated by action items by several International Hydrographic Conferences. This Working Group has achieved consensus with very few conflicts and we view this as an important opportunity to conclude a revision of S-23 after these many years of effort. The U.S. considers the proposed way forward as a good one as it is in conformance with U.S. naming policy. The U.S. also feels that this proposed way forward takes a significant step towards accommodating the requirements of those who use a name other than the one used in previous editions of S-23 for this sea feature.

Respectfully,

Meredith Westington
U.S. Representative to the Working Group on the Revision of Special Publication 23

Cc: RADM Christian ANDREASEN
Ing en chef Michel HUET



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