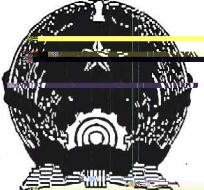


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PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



PHÁI ĐOÀN THƯỜNG THỰC
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No. 240HC-2009

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to the Notes Verbale 000818 and 000819 dated 4 August 2008 and addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Philippines to the United Nations, has the honor to state the position of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam as follows:

Viet Nam's submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf concerning the outer limits of Viet Nam's continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles, including its joint submission with Malaysia, constitute legitimate undertakings in implementation of the obligations of States under the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which totally conform to the pertinent provisions of the said Convention as well as the Scientific and Technical Guidelines and the Rules of Procedures of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

Viet Nam's submissions have been made without prejudice to matters relating to the delimitation of boundaries between States with opposite or adjacent coasts as well as the positions of States which are parties to land or maritime disputes.

Viet Nam wishes to take this opportunity to reaffirm its consistent position that Viet Nam has indisputable sovereignty over the Hoang Sa (Paracels) and Truong Sa (Spratlys) archipelagoes.

H.E. Mr. BAN KI-MOON
Secretary-General
United Nations

It is firmly held by Viet Nam that all disputes relating to the East China Sea (South China Sea) must be settled through peaceful negotiations, in accordance with international law, especially the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (East China Sea) - DOC.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations has the further honor to request that this Note Verbae be circulated to all States Parties to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea as well as all Members of the United Nations.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, 18 August 2009

