



PHÁI ĐOÀN THƯỜNG TRỰC  
CỘNG HOÀ XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM  
TẠI LIÊN HỢP QUỐC

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

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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 CML/12/2009 of 13 April 2009, CML/17/2009 of 7 May 2009 and CML/18/2009 of 7 May 2009, addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, has the honor to state the position of the Government 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 Parties to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which conform to the pertinent provisions of the said Convention as well as the Rules of Procedures of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

The Hoang Sa (Paracels) and Truong Sa (Spratlys) archipelagoes are parts of Viet Nam's territory. Viet Nam has indisputable sovereignty over these archipelagoes. China's claim over the islands and adjacent waters in the Eastern Sea (South China Sea) as manifested in the map attached with the Notes Verbale CLM/17/2009 and CLM/18/2009 has no legal, historical or factual basis, therefore is null and void.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations requests that this Note Verbale 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, 8 May 2009

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

