

(Translation)

CML/14/2019

New York, 12 December 2019

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Recalling its Note Verbale No. CML/17/2009, dated 7 May 2009, to the then Secretary-General of the United Nations Mr. Ban Ki-moon, the Mission, with regard to the Submission by Malaysia dated 12 December 2019 to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") concerning the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the South China Sea, has the honor to state the position as follows:

China has sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao, consisting of Dongsha Qundao, Xisha Qundao, Zhongsha Qundao and Nansha Qundao; China has internal waters, territorial sea and contiguous zone, based on Nanhai Zhudao; China has exclusive economic zone and continental shelf, based on Nanhai Zhudao; China has historic rights in the South China Sea. The above positions of China comply with relevant international law and practice. They are clear and consistent, and are known to the international community including the Government of Malaysia.

The aforementioned Submission by Malaysia has seriously infringed China's sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction in the South China Sea. In accordance with Article 5(a) of Annex I to the Rules of Procedure of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, the Chinese Government seriously requests the Commission not to consider the Submission by Malaysia.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations requests that this Note Verbale be circulated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to all members of the Commission, all States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea as well as all Members of the United Nations.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China 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.

H.E. Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York