
The Government of the Republic of Indonesia wishes to take this opportunity to reiterate Indonesia’s view with respect to the South China Sea as governed by the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982 (UNCLOS 1982) and subsequently confirmed by the arbitral tribunal award of 12 July 2016, as follows:

1. No feature in the Spratly Islands is entitled to an Exclusive Economic Zone or Continental Shelf of its own, hence no feature therefrom will generate overlapping maritime entitlement with Indonesia’s Exclusive Economic Zone or Continental Shelf.

2. No historic rights exist in Indonesia’s Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf vis-à-vis the People’s Republic of China. Should there be any historic rights existing prior to the entry into force of UNCLOS 1982, those rights were superseded by the provisions of UNCLOS 1982.

Consequently, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia sees no legal reasoning under international law, particularly UNCLOS 1982, to conduct negotiation on maritime boundaries delimitation with the People’s Republic of China or on any other matters pertaining to maritime rights or interests’ claims made in contravention to international law.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations has further the honor to request that this note be circulated to all members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), all State Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and all member States of the United Nations.
The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia 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, 12 June 2020

H.E. Mr. António Guterres
Secretary General
United Nations

CC:
Division on Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea
(DOALOS)
Office of Legal Affairs – United Nations
New York