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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 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