

(Translation)

CML/56/2020

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/14/2019 dated 12 December 2019, the Chinese Mission, with regard to the Note Verbale No. HA 26/20 submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Permanent Mission of Malaysia to the United Nations on 29 July 2020, has the honor to state China's position as follows:

China has sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao, including Nansha Qundao. China has internal waters, territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf, based on Nanhai Zhudao. China has historic rights in the South China Sea. China's sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao and its maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea are established in the long course of practice in history and consistent with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The Chinese Government firmly rejects the content of the aforementioned Note Verbale of Malaysia.

The Submission made unilaterally by Malaysia concerning the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the South China Sea has seriously infringed China's sovereignty, sovereign rights and jurisdiction in the South China Sea. Article 5 (a) of Annex I to the Rules of the Procedure of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf explicitly stipulates that in case where a land or maritime dispute exists, the Commission shall not consider and qualify a submission made by any of the

States concerned in the dispute. The Chinese Government once again requests the the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf not to consider the Submission made by Malaysia in December 2019 concerning the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the South China Sea.

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations has the honor to request that this Note Verbale be circulated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to all members of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, all States Parties to UNCLOS and 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.

New York, 7 August 2020

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