

E-mail from China, dated 12 August 2010

"With reference to the S-23WG2_Minutes_draft, delegates from China would like to comment as following:

1. General Comments

1.1

We expect the meeting use the same standard for discussing all proposals throughout the meeting. However, to our regret, we found that some proposals using "no objection means agreed" and some proposals using "no objection means not enough support" in the draft minutes.

1.2 refer to 11.2.a in Minutes

There was no objection while discussing this proposal during the meeting. But the meeting concluded that as disagreed, and China participants demurred at this result immediately. Now it is recorded as "deferring its consideration" in the draft minutes, however, the fact is neither such deferring agreement discussed nor reached by the meeting.

1.3 refer to 11.2.c in Minutes

Based on the official agreement between China and Vietnam about the name of Beibu Gulf, we do not think that it is necessary to circulate to WG members. The agreement can be found in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the PRC web site,

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/chn/pds/wjb/zzjg/bjhysws/bhfg/t556665.htm>,¹

And some related press release in English can also be found:

<http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/eng/wjb/zzjg/yzs/gjlb/2792/2794/t16250.htm>.

The name "Vinh Bac Bo" as pointed out by Japan in fact has the same meaning as "Beibu Gulf". "Bac = Bei" which means "North or northern" and "Bo = bu" having the same meaning "Part".

1.4 refer to 11.2.g in Minutes

It is the absolute right of China to name the islands of Nanao, Hainan, Taiwan and those places mentioned in our proposal. We insist on using "Taiwan Dao" naming the Taiwan Island.

2. Detailed Comments please find the attached file of S-23WG2_Minutes_draft_reply from China. "

From Xu Binsheng & NG Kwok-chu

Delegates to S-23WG2 from China

¹ Text copied from this site by IHB: "On December 25, 2000, the two countries officially signed in Beijing the Agreement on the Demarcation of the Beibu Gulf Territorial Waters, Exclusive Economic Zones and Continental Shelf, and Agreement on Fishing Cooperation in the Beibu Gulf. The follow-up talks over the agreement on fishing cooperation in the Beibu Gulf are in full swing".