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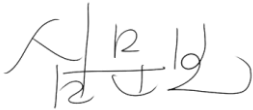
4 August 2011

## **Comments by the Republic of Korea on Progress of the Work of the S-23 Working Group**

With reference to the S-23 WG Letter No.04/2011(“S-23 Working Group Reporting to Member States”) dated 22 July 2011 the Republic of Korea wishes to make the following comments:

- The Republic of Korea supports the Chair Group’s proposal to extend the work of the WG and appreciates the Chair Group’s continued efforts to find an appropriate solution to the unresolved issues. As far as the issue of naming the sea area between the Korean Peninsula and Japanese Archipelago is concerned, the ROK is ready and willing to participate in further consultations, be it among the parties directly concerned or within the framework of the WG.
- It is imperative that in all future discussions, two principles be strictly observed. First, as clearly stated in the Rules of Procedure of this WG, decisions should generally be made by consensus. Second, views of the parties directly concerned should be fully respected. This is in line with the views of the majority of the WG members who have noted the importance of agreement being reached among the relevant parties before moving ahead with the work of updating the S-23.

- The ROK shares the view that the activities of the S-23 WG are of scientific and technical nature. In this regard, the ROK would like to call the attention of the member states of the WG to the IHO Technical Resolution A4.2.6. The resolution was adopted in 1972 to deal with cases concerning a shared geographical feature whose common name is pending agreement among the countries concerned, such as the sea area between the Korean Peninsula and the Japanese Archipelago.



Moon Bo SHIM

Representative of the Republic of Korea to the S-23 WG