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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
23 March 2011

Our ref: FOF/HYD/R/320/19/1
Your ref: IHB File S1/1450

By E-mail

Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos
International Hydrographic Bureau
4, Quai Antoine 1er
B.P. 445 – MC 98011 Monaco CEDEX
Principaute de Monaco

Dear Admiral Maratos

RESPONSES OF MEMBERS OF THE S-23 WG TO A PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

S-23 WG Letter 02/2011 dated 21 March 2011 has reference.

South Africa has not indicated that it can not support the “way forward”. The view was expressed that it was “reasonable” and the observation was made that it may not have the support of the affected parties. Under the impression that the S-23 WG is still in the process of refining the proposal, an input was made for slight changes that may make the proposal more acceptable to the parties concerned. It was not the intention to be obstructive or to be supportive of the views of any specific nation and if that view was created, it is regretted. As it will not be productive at this stage to introduce a new debate, the proposal is hereby withdrawn.

It is requested that the report to Member States should reflect that South Africa supports the proposed “way forward”. The inclusion of an “Important Notice” and the wording of the draft are supported.

Yours sincerely

(A. KAMPFER)
HYDROGRAPHER SA NAVY: CAPTAIN