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H.O.D. 02/11

24 January 2011

Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos
Chairman of Working Group on the Revision S-23 (Limits of Oceans and Seas)
President
International Hydrographic Bureau
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Reference: S-23 WG letter No 06/2010 dated 20 December 2010 "**WAY FORWARD TO PROGRESS S-23**"

Dear Vice Admiral Alexandros Maratos,

Subject: Japan's Comments on "WAY FORWARD TO PROGRESS S-23"

I appreciate the S-23 WG Letter No. 06/2010 in which you proposed a way forward on the issue of naming the sea area between the Korean Peninsula and the Japanese Archipelago.

I understand that you, as Chairman of the S-23 WG, put forward the best possible proposal in order to facilitate S-23 revision, based on the results of the deliberations of the WG.

While the basic position of Japan on this issue remains unchanged, I wish to inform you that Japan, as a responsible member of the WG, can go along with your proposal in a spirit of compromise, if a consensus can be formed around it.

I once again pay tribute to your constant efforts in trying to make progress on this issue and strongly hope that this issue be resolved appropriately under your leadership.

Yours sincerely,

Hideo Nishida
Japan Representative to S-23WG

Cc: Ing. en chef Michel Huet, Secretariat of S-23WG