

Statement of CCUFN representative at SCUFN Meeting on Jan 7

I would like to make a comment on proposals submitted by Vietnam and Malaysia. Most of the undersea features in the name proposals submitted by Vietnam and all the undersea features in the name proposals submitted by Malaysia in 2020 are in the waters where China and Vietnam or Malaysia have overlapping claims. Some undersea features are even within the 12 nm of China's Xisha Qundao and China's Nansha Qundao.

The Chinese government announced the baselines of the territorial sea adjacent to Xisha Qundao (Xisha Islands) in 1996. China has not announced the baselines of the territorial sea adjacent to Nansha Qundao (Nansha Islands) considering the territorial disputes of Nansha Qundao. But according to China's position, China has exclusive economic zone and continental shelf based on Xisha Qundao and Nansha Qundao.

In accordance with Publication B-6 of SCUFN, national naming authorities are encouraged to consult on the proposals in the mutual areas of interest prior to submitting to SCUFN. I suggest China, Vietnam and Malaysia to consult with each other before SCUFN reviewing these name proposals.

Based on years of oceanographic survey, China has named more than 6 hundred of undersea features in the South China Sea. Most of undersea features Vietnam and Malaysia proposed have been named and published by China.

If you visit the official website of CCUFN, you can find a long list of undersea features names with those undersea features in the sea areas of the Yellow Sea, the East China Sea and the South China Sea as well as other sea areas. The Ministry of Natural Resources of China also published 55 UFNs in the SCS in April 2020. China also published the maps of UFNs in 2016 as well as in 2020.

We respect the Publication B-6 of SCUFN and treasure the spirit of international cooperation. We strongly suggest the naming authorities of related countries consult on the proposals in the mutual areas of interests.

