

中华人民共和国自然资源部

Ministry of Natural Resources, The People's Republic of China

To: **DR. HYUN-CHUL HAN**

Chairman
General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans
Sub-Committee on Undersea Feature Names
International Hydrographic Organization

March 14, 2022

Dear Mr. Chairman,

China attaches great importance with participating in SCUFN process and actively contributes to the standardization of undersea feature names.

With regard to the name proposals of undersea features in the sea area under the jurisdiction of China, I wish to reiterate our position as follows:

China has sovereignty over Nanhai Zhudao, consisting of Dongsha Qundao, Xisha Qundao, Zhongsha Qundao and Nansha Qundao; China has internal waters, territorial sea, contiguous zone, exclusive economic zone and continental shelf based on Nanhai Zhudao; China has historic rights in the South China Sea. The above positions of China comply with relevant international law and practice.

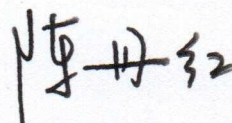
With regard to the South China Sea arbitration and the awards, China's position is clear and consistent. The South China Sea arbitration and its awards are unlawful and invalid. The Chinese Government has solemnly declared that China neither accepts nor recognizes the awards, and will never accept any claim or action based on the awards.

In accordance with Standardization of Undersea Feature Names B-6 Publication of SCUFN, any name proposals of undersea features in the sea area under the jurisdiction of China should be consulted with Subcommittee on Undersea Feature Names of China Committee on Geographical Names(CCUFN, ccufn@sina.cn).

We fully respect and support the mandates of SCUFN as the professional body for standardization of undersea feature names. It is appropriate for SCUFN not to be involved in any maritime disputes between related countries. Consultation is very necessary and important between national naming authorities on undersea features names in their mutual areas of interest prior to submitting proposals to SCUFN.

With the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be '陈丹红' (Chen Danhong), written in a cursive style.

CHEN DANHONG

Director General

Subcommittee on Undersea

Feature Names of China

Committee on Geographical
Names

Department of International
Cooperation

Ministry of Natural Resources
the People's Republic of China

Cc: Mr. Yves Guillam

Secretary of SCUFN