

Statement of Vietnam at SCUFN 36 Meeting

Vietnam would like to make two main observations as follows:

First, Vietnam is of the view that every coastal State should have a right of priority to name undersea features located within its EEZ or continental shelf as established in accordance with international law, including 1982 UNCLOS. Therefore if there are other States who submitted their own proposals for naming undersea features located within our EEZ and continental shelf, these States should conduct necessary consultations with Vietnam on this matter.

Second, Vietnam would like to confirm its own right to name undersea features located within its EEZ or continental shelf. Therefore, with regard to the so called “older names” proposed by other countries with regard to undersea features located within in our EEZ or continental shelf, Vietnam strongly supports the view that while these “older names” were not considered and accepted by SCUFN which is the sole international body having a right to accept relevant proposals submitted by coastal States, SCUFN should give a fair and equal treatment to all relevant proposals submitted by Vietnam as the sole coastal State having the sovereign rights and jurisdiction over the maritime zones of the relevant undersea features ./.