

No. 136/CH-2024

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to the Partial Submission of Data and Information on the Outer Limits of the Continental Shelf of the Republic of the Philippines in the West Palawan Region pursuant to Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Convention) to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (Commission) on 14 June 2024, has the honour to state the position of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam as follows:

Viet Nam notes that a portion of the Philippines' area of the Submission encroaches upon the 200-nautical-mile continental shelf of Viet Nam from its baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured. Some other areas of the Submission overlap with the extended continental shelf of Viet Nam in the East Sea (South China Sea) as established in accordance with the Convention and defined in the Partial Submission of Viet Nam in respect of the Viet Nam - North Area (submitted on 7 May 2009), the Partial Submission of Viet Nam in respect of the Viet Nam-Central Area (submitted on 17 July 2024) and the Joint Submission by Viet Nam and Malaysia in respect of the Southern Part of the East Sea (submitted on 6 May 2009).

Viet Nam hereby resolutely rejects and cannot accept the claim by the Philippines over the portion of the extended continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles in the East Sea which encroaches upon Viet Nam's 200-nautical-mile continental shelf and violates Viet Nam's inherent sovereign rights and jurisdiction, as this claim is not in accordance with international law, including the Convention.

Viet Nam reserves all its rights regarding the overlapping areas between the extended continental shelf of Viet Nam as defined in all Submissions to the Commission since May 2009 and some areas as defined in the Submission of the Philippines to the Commission on 14 June 2024. Viet Nam stands ready to discuss and negotiate this matter with the Philippines based on the Convention.

In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Commission, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam requests the Commission to refrain from considering the Submission made by the Republic of the Philippines to the Commission on 14 June 2024 until all the relevant issues have been resolved by Viet Nam and the Philippines.

The Permanent Mission has further the honour to request the Secretary-General to circulate this Note Verbale to all States Parties to the Convention, as well as all Members of the United Nations.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the United Nations takes this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of the United Nations the assurance of its highest consideration.

New York, 17 July 2024

His Excellency Mr. António Guterres
Secretary-General of the United Nations
New York