

(Translation)

CML/1/2021

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with regard to the Note Verbale SC/21/002 dated 19 January 2021 addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations by the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, has the honor to state China's position as follows:

I. Being a State Party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), China treats UNCLOS with a rigorous and responsible attitude. The drawing of territorial sea baselines by China on relevant islands and reefs in the South China Sea conforms to UNCLOS and general international law.

II. China has sovereignty over Nansha Qundao, including Meiji Jiao, and their adjacent waters and airspace. China's territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests in the South China Sea are established in the long course of history and have been upheld by successive Chinese Governments and are consistent with international law, including the Charter of the United Nations and UNCLOS.

and interests in the South China Sea, and to respect the joint efforts made by China and ASEAN countries to maintain peace and stability in the South China Sea.

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