

2 July 2002

English only

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**Eighth United Nations Conference on the  
Standardization of Geographical Names**

Berlin, 27 August-5 September 2002

Item 15 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Features beyond a single sovereignty: features  
common to two or more nations**

**Letter dated 19 July 2001 from the Director of the Hydrographic  
Department of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the  
President of the Directing Committee of the International  
Hydrographic Bureau**

**Submitted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

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\* E/CONF.94/1.



**THIS IS A RETYPED VERSION**

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**To: Rear Admiral Giuseppe ANGRISANO  
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19 July 2001, Pyongyang

Dear Rear Admiral ANGRISANO,

I received the draft of Chapter 7 "Northern Pacific Ocean" in the IHO Publication: S-23: "Limits of Oceans and Seas" which you have sent by letter dated 8 June 2001.

First, I appreciate that you have understood our right and principled requirement for recalling the sea name and have cooperated actively up to dated after the 2<sup>nd</sup> EIHC.

This time, the name "Japan Sea" was used once again in the draft of Chapter 7 of IHO publication S-23: "Limits of Oceans and Seas".

As you know, the name "Japan Sea" is the result of Japanese colonial rule to Korea.

As the half a century has passed since Japan had been defeated and the Japanese colonial rule to Korea had been gone to end. It is reverse against the history and the times to misname the sea name into "Japan Sea" up to date again.

Therefore, we claim that the sea name in IHO publication S-23: "Limits of Oceans and Seas" should be called not "Japan Sea" but thoroughly "East Sea" or "Oriental Sea" like being called historically for a long time.

I would send a copy of this letter to the Secretariat of the "UN Conference on Standardization of Geographical names" to be held in Berlin, August.

I hope you would accept our suggestion justifiably and deal with it correctly.

Yours sincerely,

Vice Admiral Choe Jun Gil  
Director of Hydrographic Department  
DPR Korea