1. This document is circulated at the request of the delegation of Japan.

2. In the light of the fact that ‘Japan Sea’ is the internationally established single name officially approved by the International Hydrographic Organization, the Government of Japan wishes to place on record that it cannot accept the groundless view of the Secretariat contained in paragraph 2 of the document Cop12 Inf.42, which was as follows:

   In view of the dispute that exists between the States concerned and ongoing bilateral discussions and multilateral discussions in the International Hydrographic Organization, the Secretariat notes that the inclusion of the term ‘Sea of Japan’ in document CoP12 Doc.66 does not imply its recognition of a particular geographical designation for the body of water in question.