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The Legal Counsel presents his compliments to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and has the honour to communicate the following in relation to the distribution of depositary notifications by the Secretary-General as depositary of multilateral treaties:

The Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs will continue to develop its procedures for expeditiously providing information relating to the international treaty framework. The Treaty Section which discharges the functions of the Secretary-General in his capacity as depositary of multilateral treaties has prepared the attached note.

The Legal Counsel of the United Nations avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations the assurances of his highest consideration.

23 February 2005

INFORMATION RELATING TO DEPOSITARY NOTIFICATIONS

The Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs which discharges the functions of the Secretary-General in his capacity as depositary of multilateral treaties, advises Member States and others of the status of the multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General through depositary notifications (CNs) which are circulated both by electronic mail and in paper format.

- CNs are circulated to all Permanent Missions and other recipients in hard copy and by electronic mail. The electronic mail contains links to the website where the CNs are stored.
- CNs dated January 2001 to the present are available in the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet at http://untreaty.un.org.
- CNs are made available to the Permanent Missions by way of a Mailing List Service developed and maintained by the Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) of the Office of Central Support Services. This service is offered to all Permanent Missions on a subscription basis and requires the opening of an account with ITSD.
- In cases of technical difficulty in receiving documents by electronic mail, the Permanent Missions are advised to contact the ITSD Mission Support Help Desk at (212) 963-3157 for technical assistance and guidance.
- Hard copy versions of the depositary notifications are distributed along with all other parliamentary documents on a daily basis. Such documents are then packaged and labelled with the relevant names of each Permanent Mission for pick-up by the Permanent Missions in Room NL-300. Questions relating to the distribution of the depositary notifications in hard copy format should be addressed to the Publishing Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management.