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Reference: C.N.597.2016.TREATIES-X.20 (Depositary Notification)

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON FACILITATION OF CROSS-BORDER PAPERLESS TRADE IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC BANGKOK, 19 MAY 2016

OPENING FOR SIGNATURE

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary, communicates the following:

The above Agreement was adopted on 19 May 2016 by resolution 72/4 during the seventy-second session of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

In accordance with its article 18, the Agreement shall be open for signature at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 October 2016 to 30 September 2017 by States that are members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Certified true copies of the Agreement, of which the Chinese, English and Russian texts are equally authentic, are being circulated under depositary notification C.N.598.2016.TREATIES-X.20 of 23 August 2016.

The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to recall that, under established international practice, only Heads of State, Heads of Government or Ministers for Foreign Affairs are empowered, by virtue of their functions, to sign treaties on behalf of States without having to produce full powers to that effect. Other representatives of States wishing to sign the Agreement must be in possession of appropriate full powers emanating from one of these three authorities.

The Secretary-General would be obliged if States that are members of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific wishing to sign the Agreement could, as necessary, provide the required full powers in advance to the Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs, at United Nations Headquarters in New York, facsimile: (212) 963-3693.

For more information on full powers, please refer to the *Treaty Handbook* on the United Nations Treaty Collection website at the following address: http://treaties.un.org/doc/source/publications/THB/English.pdf.

23 August 2016

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned. Depositary notifications are issued in electronic format only. Depositary notifications are made available to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in the United Nations Treaty Collection at https://treaties.un.org, under "Depositary Notifications (CNs)". In addition, the Permanent Missions, as well as other interested individuals, can subscribe to receive depositary notifications by e-mail through the Treaty Section's "Automated Subscription Services", which is also available at https://treaties.un.org/Pages/Login.aspx?lang=_en.