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The Legal Counsel presents his compliments to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and the legal advisers of the United Nations system and has the honour to convey the following in relation to the publication “Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2002”:

- Consistent with the commitment made by the Secretary-General in his Millennium Report to advance the rule of law in international relations and promote the wider dissemination and appreciation of international law and the measures listed in the Action Plan “An Era of Application of International Law” approved by him, the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs has placed the annual publication “Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General: Status as at 31 December 2002” on CD-Rom. The CD-Rom version contains a complex search mechanism and a web interface linked to the Internet version of the above publication. The Internet version is updated daily. Access to the web version will continue to be through username and password.
- In addition to greatly facilitating access to the latest status information on over 500 multilateral treaties deposited with the Secretary-General, the CD-Rom version was also intended to save costs associated with the paper publication and to address logistical difficulties with reproduction and distribution.
- With a view to further improving the CD-Rom product, the Treaty Section of the Office of Legal Affairs welcomes your comments and suggestions. Comments and suggestions can be submitted by e-mail to: treaty@un.org or sent by fax to (212) 963 3693.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. O. ...'.

10 April 2003