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

The above action was effected on 13 July 2022.

(Translation) (Original: French)

The Kingdom of Belgium has carefully examined the declaration made by the Togolese Republic upon its accession on 14 July 2021 to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, done at New York on 30 August 1961 (hereinafter “the Convention”), in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 3.

The Kingdom of Belgium considers that the fact of having been sentenced, for an act qualified as a crime under Togolese law, to more than five years of imprisonment without parole does not constitute a permissible ground for deprivation of nationality under the exceptions provided for by Article 8 of the Convention. Consequently, the Kingdom of Belgium considers that the second indent of the declaration made by the Togolese Republic constitutes a reservation contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention. It recalls that under the terms of Article 19 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, a State may not formulate a reservation incompatible with the object and purpose of a treaty.

Consequently, the Kingdom of Belgium objects to the second indent of the declaration made by the Togolese Republic to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

This objection shall not preclude the entry into force of the Convention between the Kingdom of Belgium and the Togolese Republic.

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13 July 2022

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