The Legal Counsel presents his compliments to the Permanent Representatives to the United Nations and the Heads of international organizations, refers to his note LA 41 TR/230 of 22 April 1996, and has the honour to convey the following in relation to the submission of treaties for registration and publication in accordance with Article 102 of the United Nations Charter.

As a result of the computerization programme undertaken in the Treaty Section of the United Nations and with a view to enhancing further the efficiency of the registration and publication process, it is strongly encouraged that Member States and international organizations submit treaties to the Secretariat on computer diskette. Each treaty submitted for registration should also be accompanied by a certified true copy on paper. The submission of treaties in electronic format will save costs, enhance efficiency and expedite the registration and publication process.

Member States and international organizations which submit treaties on diskette would be required to submit only one certified true copy on paper. The certifying statement accompanying such a submission (a model of which is attached) must certify that both the electronic copy and the paper copy of the treaty are true and complete. The preferred format for a treaty submitted on diskette is Wordperfect 6.1 for Windows, as this is the system used in the Treaty Section of the United Nations. If it is not possible to submit treaties in this format, you may submit them in Word for Windows format or as text file (the generic format for saving documents).

Member States and international organizations which are not in a position to submit treaties on diskette should continue to submit one certified true copy and the two additional copies on paper, as required under article 5(2) of the General Assembly Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter.

The Treaty Section will continue to discharge its mandate under Article 102 of the Charter and the relevant General Assembly regulations and, consistent with the wishes of the Member States as reflected in Resolution A/RES/51/158 of 16 December 1996, will continue to explore new methods for expediting the registration and publication process. It is noted that the realization of this objective is dependent also on the active cooperation of Member States and international organizations.

The Legal Counsel greatly appreciates the continued cooperation of Member States and international organizations in these matters.

2 April 1997