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Reference: C.N.79.2012.TREATIES-1 (Depositary Notification)

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE  
CHILD ON A COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURE

NEW YORK, 19 DECEMBER 2011

OPENING FOR SIGNATURE

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

The above Protocol, which was adopted at the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations by resolution 66/138 of 19 December 2011, will be open for signature at a signing ceremony to be held in Geneva, Switzerland on 28 February 2012 and thereafter at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

In accordance with its article 18 (1), the Protocol shall be open for signature by any State that has signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Rights of the Child or either of the two Optional Protocols thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

Certified true copies of the Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, are being printed and will be transmitted to all States as soon as possible. Electronic copies of the Protocol are posted in the United Nations Treaty Collection website at the following address:

<http://treaties.un.org/doc/Treaties/2011/12/20111219%2003-15%20PM/CTC%204-11d.pdf>

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 wishing to sign the Protocol must be in possession of appropriate full powers emanating from one of these authorities.

The Secretary-General would be obliged if States wishing to sign the Protocol 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.

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 on the Internet at <http://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 <http://treaties.un.org>.

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

8 February 2012

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JGW', is written below the date.

Attention: Treaty Services of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of international organizations concerned. Depository notifications are issued in electronic format only. Depository notifications are made available to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations in the United Nations Treaty Collection on the Internet at <http://treaties.un.org>, under "Depository Notifications (CNs)". In addition, the Permanent Missions, as well as other interested individuals, can subscribe to receive depository notifications by e-mail through the Treaty Section's "Automated Subscription Services", which is also available at <http://treaties.un.org>.