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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Letter dated 1 November 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia, Finland, Japan and the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to refer to the joint ministerial statement in support of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which was launched on 23 September 2004 at United Nations Headquarters. Ministers from 66 countries have associated themselves with the joint statement.

A copy of the statement and the list of signatories are attached (see annex). We would be grateful if you would have the texts included as documents of the General Assembly, under agenda items 56 (r) and 71.

We would also like to take this opportunity to inform, through the Secretary-General, States Members which are not accredited to the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization that we would be pleased to be notified if their Foreign Ministers wish to endorse the attached joint statement.

(Signed) John **Dauth**
Ambassador

Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations

(Signed) Marjatta **Rasi**
Ambassador

Permanent Mission of Finland to the United Nations

(Signed) Koichi **Haraguchi**
Ambassador

Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations

(Signed) Dirk Jan **van den Berg**
Ambassador

Permanent Mission of Netherlands to the United Nations
(on behalf of the European Union)

Annex to the letter dated 1 November 2004 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia, Finland, Japan and the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Joint ministerial statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, New York, 23 September 2004

1. We, the Foreign Ministers who have issued this statement, reaffirm our support for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which would rid the world of nuclear weapons test explosions and would contribute to the systematic and progressive reduction of nuclear weapons and the prevention of nuclear proliferation.
2. The Treaty is a major instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The Treaty was an integral part of the 1995 agreements by the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, allowing the indefinite extension of the former Treaty. The early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was recognized at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a practical step to achieving the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives of the latter Treaty, and has been reaffirmed as being of central importance by the General Assembly.
3. We affirm that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty will make an important contribution towards preventing the proliferation of materials, technologies and knowledge that can be used for nuclear weapons, one of the most important challenges that the world is facing today. Thus, the entry into force of the Treaty, within the broader framework of multilateral arms control and non-proliferation efforts, is more urgent today than ever before. Progress on this issue would also contribute to a positive outcome of the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
4. We welcome the fact that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty has achieved near-universal adherence with, to date, 172 States having signed and 115 States having ratified it. However, there are 44 States whose ratification is necessary for its entry into force. Twelve of these have yet to do so. We call upon all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty without delay, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force. We commit ourselves individually and collectively to making the Treaty a focus of attention at the highest political levels and to taking measures to facilitate the process of signature and ratification. We support the efforts of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to facilitate that process by providing legal and technical information and advice.
5. We call upon all States to continue a moratorium on nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions. Voluntary adherence to such a moratorium is of the highest importance, but does not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty. We reaffirm our commitment to the basic obligations set out in the Treaty and call upon all States to refrain from acts which would defeat its objective and purpose pending its entry into force.

6. We welcome the progress made in building up the verification system, which will be capable of verifying compliance with the Treaty upon its entry into force. We will continue to provide the support required to complete and to operate the verification system in the most efficient and cost-effective way. We will also promote technical cooperation to enhance verification capabilities under the Treaty.

7. In addition to its primary function, the verification system will bring scientific and civil benefits, through civil and scientific application of waveform and radionuclide technologies and use of the data. We continue to seek ways to ensure that these benefits will be broadly shared by the international community.

8. We appeal to all States to maximize their efforts to achieve a major step towards the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. On our part, we dedicate ourselves to realizing this goal.

Abdullah Abdullâh
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan

Kastriot Islami
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania

Abdelaziz Belkhadem
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Rafael Bielsa
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina

Alexander Downer
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia

Benita Ferrero-Waldner
Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Austria

Elmar Mammadyarov
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan

M. Morshed Khan
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Sergei Martynov
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus

Karel de Gucht
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Belgium

Mladen Ivanić
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Youssouf Ouédraogo
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation of Burkina Faso

Solomon Passy
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria

Pierre S. Pettigrew
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada

Ignacio Walker
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Chile

Miomir Žužul
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia

George Iacovou
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus

Cyril Svoboda
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

Per Stig Moeller
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Denmark

Francisco E. Laínez Rivas
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of El Salvador

Kristiina Ojuland
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia

Erkki Tuomioja
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Finland

Michel Barnier
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic

Joschka Fischer
Vice Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany

Petros Molyviatis
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic

Giovanni Lajolo
Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See

László Kovács
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary

David Oddsson
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland

Brian Cowen
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ireland

Franco Frattini
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy

Yoriko Kawaguchi
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan

Marwan Muasher
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

Kassymzhomart Tokaev
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan

Sheikh Mohammad Al-Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait

Artis Pabriks
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Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania

Michael Frendo
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Malta

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Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Norway

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Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines

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Minister of Foreign Affairs of Serbia and Montenegro

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Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic

Ivo Vajgl
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia

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Kostyantyn Gryshchenko
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

Jack Straw
Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
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Jesús Arnaldo Pérez
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Kalombo T. Mwansa
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Zambia
