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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON PROHIBITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS OF USE
OF CERTAIN CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS WHICH MAY BE DEEMED TO BE
EXCESSIVELY INJURIOUS OR TO HAVE INDISCRIMINATE EFFECTS

Note verbale dated 22 April 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Acting Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, with reference to General Assembly resolution 35/153 relating to the United Nations Conference on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, communicates the following:

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, having signed on 10 April 1981 the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions of Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, 1/ avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate its conviction that the establishment of appropriate methods and procedures facilitating full and effective implementation of and ensuring compliance with the Convention would guarantee the fulfilment of its humanitarian obligations, thus improving the security of parties to the Convention.

By enhancing the credibility and reliable observance of the humanitarian commitments assumed, such methods and procedures would further contribute to a climate of international confidence conducive to further progress in disarmament and international humanitarian law. In this connexion, the Federal Government should like to recall the statements made by the

* A/36/50.

1/ A/CONF.95/15 and Corr.2, annex I, appendix A.

representative of the Netherlands speaking on behalf of the European Community and by the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany on the occasion of the final plenary meeting of the United Nations Conference on Certain Conventional Weapons, on 10 October 1980.

It was with a view to ensuring full and continuous observance of the Convention and its protocols that the Federal Republic of Germany together with Belgium; Canada, France, Ireland, Italy, Japan and the Netherlands proposed, at the early stages of the second session of the Conference, the establishment of a consultative committee of experts providing for consultation and co-operation between the parties as well as a mechanism for the inquiry into the facts of alleged violations (see A/CONF.95/L.7).

The Federal Republic of Germany regrets that it has not yet been possible to establish such mechanism within the Convention. It remains convinced that appropriate measures and adequate mechanisms to ensure effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention would greatly enhance its credibility, strengthen confidence as to the commitment of parties to it and promote universal adherence. The effectiveness and credibility of the obligations thus achieved would create a solid basis for further progress in this field. The Federal Republic of Germany will therefore, together with other States, continue its efforts for the establishment of such means and mechanisms in all relevant forums, in particular in the first conference on review and amendment as provided for in article 8 of the Convention.

The Federal Republic of Germany welcomes the fact that the Convention was signed by a considerable number of States during the first days after being opened for signature. It expresses the hope that the Convention and its protocols will enter into force in the near future and will be universally observed in cases of international armed conflicts.

It is requested to circulate this note as an official document of the General Assembly under item 52 of the preliminary list.
