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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 23 April 1981 from the Permanent Representative
of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the
Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands 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, has the honour to communicate the following.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands was among the States that signed the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects 1/ on 10 April 1981, the first day of its opening for signature. The Netherlands expresses the hope that the Convention may enter into force as soon as possible and be scrupulously observed by all parties.

It further expresses the hope that the Convention will be acceded to by all States and will thereby find universal application in the future. In pursuance of the objective of assuring the Convention's observance, the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands wishes to reiterate the view expressed by its representative in the last plenary meeting of the Conference, speaking also on behalf of the other States members of the European Communities, that the establishment of a verification mechanism, such as a consultative committee of experts, would merit future examination.

* A/36/50.

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

It is the firm conviction of the Government of the Netherlands that an adequate mechanism as envisaged would deter possible violations of the Convention and its three annexed protocols, thus enhancing the credibility of these instruments and general observance of the humanitarian commitments they have established. The Netherlands therefore intends to pursue its efforts to promote and participate in an examination of relevant arrangements with respect to implementation of and compliance with the aforementioned Convention and its protocols in all appropriate forums, such as a conference convened in accordance with article 8 of the Convention.

It is requested that this note be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 52 of the preliminary list.
