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**MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM H.E. MR. V. CHERNOMYRDIN, PRESIDENT OF
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

On the occasion of the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, I greet the participants of the Conference and wish them success in the work of this authoritative and representative international forum.

In the more than 30 years of its existence, UNCTAD has made a substantial contribution to solving key economic problems and has had a significant positive impact on efforts to accelerate the economic growth of developing countries, restructure the world economy and ensure the economic progress of the world community as a whole.

In today's conditions, marked by a growing trend towards the globalization and liberalization of global economic relations, regional integration and increasing interdependence of national economies, UNCTAD has a particularly important role to play in developing new approaches to contemporary economic problems.

I am sure that in these new conditions, UNCTAD will demonstrate once again its capacity to react flexibly to the challenges of our time, adapting its work to the nature of economic relations in today's world, and will use its rich potential to solve effectively the economic development problems on the eve of the twenty-first century. I would like to assure you that in this activity, UNCTAD will continue to receive full understanding and all necessary support from the Russian Federation.

I would be grateful if participants at the Conference would transmit to their Governments and peoples our sincere wishes for peace, progress, stability and well-being.

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