



## General Assembly

Distr.: General  
6 February 2003

Original: English

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### Fifty-seventh session

Agenda item 66

### General and complete disarmament

#### **Letter dated 30 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to forward the following documents and request their circulation as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 66 (see annex):

- A copy of the letter from the Dutch Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. De Hoop-Scheffer;
- Text of the International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (ICOC);
- List of Subscribing States.

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

**Annex to the letter dated 30 January 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

**Letter dated 11 January 2003 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the Secretary-General**

I have the honour to submit to you the text of the International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (ICOC), which was adopted in The Hague on 25 November 2002. I would greatly appreciate it if you would distribute it, along with this letter, to all States Members of the United Nations as an official document (see enclosure).

At their first meeting, the Subscribing States decided that the Netherlands would be Chair of ICOC for the period of one year and that Austria would be the Immediate Central Contact (ICC). They also declared that the International Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation would henceforth be known as The Hague Code of Conduct.

States Members of the United Nations that have not yet subscribed to The Hague Code of Conduct may do so by submitting a note verbale to the Immediate Central Contact at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ballhausplatz 2, 1014 Vienna. As soon as they have stated their wish to adhere to the Code, they may participate in the working meetings at which decisions will be made on the remaining questions to be addressed before the Code can become fully operational.

The Netherlands hopes that all States Members of the United Nations will seriously consider subscribing to The Hague Code of Conduct, thereby making an important contribution to international peace and stability.

*(Signed)* Jaap **de Hoop-Scheffer**  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands