

# CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1742  
25 August 2004

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

---

**LETTER DATED 16 AUGUST 2004 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON 9 AUGUST 2004 CONCERNING THE MODERNIZATION OF THE UNITED STATES RADAR STATION IN THULE, GREENLAND**

I have the honour to transmit herewith a press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on 9 August 2004 concerning the modernization of the United States radar station in Thule, Greenland.

I should be grateful if the press release could be issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed to the delegations of all member States of the Conference and non-member States participating in its work.

*(Signed):* L. SKOTNIKOV  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of  
the Russian Federation to the  
Conference on Disarmament

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Modernization of the United States radar station in Thule, Greenland**

On 6 August the United States and Denmark signed a package of agreements that effectively open the way for modernization of the United States radar station in Thule, Greenland, which will be used for the United States anti-missile defence now under construction.

The United States has repeatedly assured us that the future United States anti-missile defence will not be directed against Russia. Yet the very geographical details of the location of this radar station in Greenland offer grounds for supposing that the United States anti-missile defence is in fact already being equipped with a definite potential capable of harming Russia's security. This signal is all the more alarming for us since the United States is also contemplating the deployment of elements of its anti-missile defence in Eastern Europe, in immediate proximity to Russia's borders.

The Russian Federation wishes to point out that in the context of the significant reductions in strategic nuclear potentials agreed on by Russia and the United States, the possible emergence of a threat to Russia's deterrent forces in the future cannot be ruled out.

In this connection, the Russian Federation will carefully analyse the evolving situation in the light of its own security interests, and reserves its right to take all necessary steps to maintain its security at the appropriate level.

9 August 2004

-----