

**Second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on
the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons
and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed
and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof**

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UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS
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Note by the Secretariat

1. In paragraph 18 of its Final Report 1/ the Preparatory Committee for the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof recalled, inter alia, that the Secretary-General of the United Nations had submitted to the first Review Conference a document (SBT/CONF/6) containing (i) a compilation of official communications with regard to the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the Treaty, which the Secretary-General might have received and (ii) a compilation of papers on technological developments (military as well as peaceful) relevant to the Treaty, which Parties may wish to provide, or which were otherwise available to the Secretary-General from Governments. The Committee decided to request the Secretary-General to submit a document containing information that he might receive regarding the questions referred to in section (b) (i) and (ii) of paragraph 18 of its Final Report, following the same procedure that had been used in the preparation of document SBT/CONF/6.

2. In response to the Committee's request, the Secretary-General sent a note verbale, dated 25 May 1983, to the Depositary Governments, the substantive part of which reads as follows:

"The Secretary-General would appreciate it if His Excellency's Government, as a Depositary of the Treaty, would transmit to him, before 15 July 1983, the communications it may have received pursuant to paragraph 18 (b) (i) of the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee. The Secretary-General would also appreciate the assistance of His Excellency's Government in making the necessary arrangements so that the Secretary-General may receive, directly, or through its intermediary, before 15 July 1983, the papers on technological developments that Parties to the Treaty may wish to provide in accordance with paragraph 18 (b) (ii) of the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee.

As called for in paragraph 19 of the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee, the Secretary-General should circulate the compilations of the communications and papers received not later than two weeks before the opening of the second Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, which will be held at Geneva, from 12 to 23 September 1983."

3. In connection with the request of the Secretary-General, a communication, dated 15 July 1983, was received from the Government of the United States of America, the substantive part of which reads as follows:

"The United States Government, in its capacity as a Depositary of the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, has not received any official communication from any State party with regard to the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the Treaty. Should any such official communication be received prior to the Review Conference, it will be transmitted expeditiously.

The United States, as a State Party, continues to examine, as they arise, technological developments that might be relevant to the Treaty. At this time the United States Government has not identified any such developments for consideration at the Review Conference that would be relevant to the operation and effectiveness of the Treaty nor any that would affect either the purposes or the specific provisions of the Treaty."

A communication, dated 8 August 1983, was received from the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the substantive part of which reads as follows:

"The Acting Permanent Representative wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of the United Kingdom have received no official communications with regard to the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the Treaty other than reservations, declarations and statements made on signature or ratification of the Treaty.

The Acting Permanent Representative also wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of the United Kingdom have not received any papers on technological developments relevant to the Treaty from parties to the Treaty pursuant to paragraph 18 (b) of the Final Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference. Nor do the Government of the United Kingdom wish themselves to submit a paper at this stage."

A communication, dated 30 August 1983, was received from the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the substantive part of which reads as follows:

"The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as one of the Depositaries of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-bed and Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof, has not received any communications from other States Parties to the Treaty concerning the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the Treaty and does not have any information about technological developments which affect the action and effectiveness of the Treaty as well as its objectives and provisions."