



General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/46/69
18 January 1991
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

Forty-sixth session

CESSATION OF ALL NUCLEAR-TEST EXPLOSIONS

AMENDMENT OF THE TREATY BANNING NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS IN THE
ATMOSPHERE, IN OUTER SPACE AND UNDER WATER

URGENT NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

Letter dated 17 January 1991 from the Permanent Representative of
the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the message of greetings from Mr. M. S. Gorbachev to participants in the Amendment Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water.

I should be grateful if you would have this text distributed as an official document of the General Assembly under the items entitled "Cessation of all nuclear-test explosions", "Amendment of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water" and "Urgent need for a comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty".

(Signed) Y. VORONTSOV

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ANNEX

Message of greetings from the President of the USSR to
participants in the Amendment Conference of the States
Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in
the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water

I send greetings to your Conference and take this opportunity to reiterate the Soviet Union's unswerving commitment to the early achievement of a complete ban on nuclear tests as a major step towards a world without nuclear weapons. I confirm our readiness to discontinue our nuclear tests at any time if the United States does likewise. We are prepared to adopt an amendment to the 1963 Treaty in order to convert the restrictions contained in the Treaty into a comprehensive ban. We call on other countries to support this long-needed decision.

I wish the Conference success in its work in the interests of the world community and peace on earth.
