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The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations Office at Geneva presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction and has the honour to inform him as follows:

The Syrian Arab Republic is a signatory of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction and is in favour of the continuation of consultations among the States parties to the Convention with a view to reaching an agreement concerning the effective measures and purposeful procedures needed to promote greater confidence in the Convention and closer international cooperation in the field of biological activities for peaceful purposes, which would certainly make the Convention more effective and realistic, particularly if equitable monitoring and verification procedures were formulated on a non-discriminatory basis. In pursuance of the endeavours that have already been made to turn the Middle East into a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction, and in this regard I am referring in particular to the Syrian proposal submitted at the Paris Conference in 1989, the Syrian Arab Republic emphasizes that, in order to establish security and political stability in the region, all the countries of the region must accede to the treaties and conventions prohibiting the possession and use of nuclear, chemical, biological and other weapons of mass destruction, since such prohibition is a prerequisite for the strengthening of security and stability in the region.

The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic requests the circulation of this note as an official document of the Third Review Conference and takes this opportunity to convey to the Secretary-General of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction the assurances of his highest consideration.

Geneva, 11 September 1991

The Secretary-General of the Third Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction
Geneva