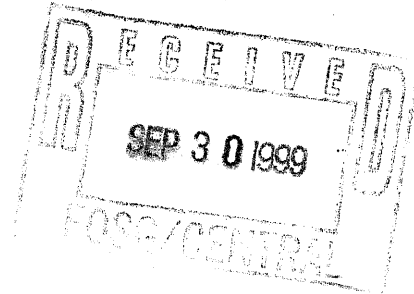




THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Japan
NPTS

28 September 1999



Dear Mr. Ambassador,

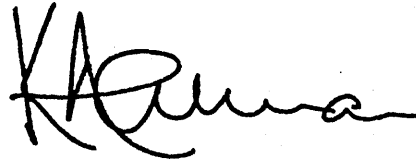
I wish to thank you for your letter, dated 24 September 1999, on behalf of the Ratifying States of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), requesting me, in my capacity as Depositary, to convene the Conference on Facilitating the Entry Into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty from 6 to 8 October 1999 in Vienna, in accordance with Article XIV of the Treaty.

I also warmly welcome the nomination of the President and would like to assure him of my fullest support in order for the Conference to achieve a positive outcome. I had already nominated Mr. Wolfgang Hoffmann as Secretary of the Conference and this was conveyed to you by Mr. Jayantha Dhanapala, Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, on my behalf, in his letter of 22 September 1999.

His Excellency
Mr. Yuji Ikeda
Permanent Representative of Japan
to the CTBTO Preparatory Commission
Vienna

In accordance with your wishes, I have circulated letters of invitation and related documents to all Ratifying and Signatory States, as well as the non-Signatory States. Intergovernmental organizations, entities and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have also been informed of the Conference.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration. *

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Annan', with a stylized, cursive script.

- Kofi A. Annan