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SG/2180-DC/3307 14 OCTOBER 2011

Finland Appointed as Host Government, Facilitator for 2012 Conference on Middle East as Zone Free of **Nuclear, All Mass-Destruction Weapons**

Following is a joint statement issued by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the Governments of the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States in New York, today, 14 October:

In accordance with the practical steps endorsed by the Parties to the 2010 Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Secretary-General and the Governments of the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and the United States, as co-sponsors of the 1995 NPT Resolution on the Middle East and depositary States of the Treaty, in consultation with the States of the region, are pleased to announce the appointment of Jaakko Laajava, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, as facilitator and the designation of Finland as the host Government for the 2012 Conference on the establishment of a Middle East zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction.



For information media. Not an official record.