**Note to Correspondents - Accession of Palestine to Multilateral Treaties**

January 7, 2015

United Nations

http://www.un.org/sg/offthecuff/index.asp?nid=3786

Many reporters have been asking about the documents transmitted by the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations relating to the accession of Palestine to 16 multilateral treaties in respect of which the Secretary-General is the depository, including the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

In  conformity with the relevant international rules and his practice as a depositary, the Secretary-General has ascertained that the instruments received were in due and proper form before accepting them for deposit, and has informed all States concerned accordingly through the circulation of depositary notifications. The information is public and posted on the website of the UN Treaty Section (https://treaties.un.org/pages/CNs.aspx).

This is an administrative function performed by the Secretariat as part of the Secretary-General’s responsibilities as depositary for these treaties.

It is important to emphasize that it is for States to make their own determination with respect to any legal issues raised by instruments circulated by the Secretary-General.