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COMMUNICATION OF 22 AUGUST 1995 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

- 1. On 25 August 1995, the Director General received a communication dated 22 August 1995 from the Permanent Mission of the Philippines transmitting a Statement of 19 August 1995 by the President of the Philippines concerning the second test of a nuclear weapon by China since the 1995 NPT Review and Extension Conference.
- 2. As requested by the Permanent Mission of the Philippines, the text of the Statement is being circulated as an official document for the forthcoming regular session of the General Conference.

STATEMENT OF H. E. PRESIDENT FIDEL V. RAMOS ON CHINESE NUCLEAR TEST 18 AUGUST 1995

THE PHILIPPINES STRONGLY DEPLORES THE TEST OF A NUCLEAR DEVICE WHICH CHINA CONDUCTED YESTERDAY.

THE TEST WAS THE SECOND THAT CHINA HAD CONDUCTED SINCE THE REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY (NPT) IN APRIL THIS YEAR. IT MANIFESTLY VIOLATED THE UNDERSTANDING THAT HAD PREVAILED AT THE NPT REVIEW CONFERENCE THAT ALL NUCLEAR-WEAPONS STATES WOULD EXERCISE UTMOST RESTRAINT WITH RESPECT TO NUCLEAR TESTING PENDING THE CONCLUSION OF A COMPREHENSIVE TEST BAN TREATY IN 1996.

CHINA'S DECISION TO CONTINUE TESTING FLIES IN THE FACE OF THE STATEMENT BY THE ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM EARLIER THIS MONTH, WHICH CALLED ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES TO BRING AN IMMEDIATE END TO NUCLEAR TESTING.

THE PHILIPPINES URGES CHINA, AS WELL AS FRANCE, TO ABANDON PLANS FOR FURTHER NUCLEAR TESTS, WHICH HAVE RAISED SERIOUS CONCERNS ABOUT THE SINCERITY OF THE NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES, AND DETER DISARMAMENT INITIATIVES, INCLUDING THE CONCLUSION OF A TEST BAN TREATY.

THE PHILIPPINES HAS CONSISTENTLY TAKEN AN ACTIVE STAND ON ISSUES RELATING TO NUCLEAR TESTING. FOLLOWING CHINA'S PREVIOUS TEST AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY FRANCE OF ITS PLANS TO RESUME TESTS IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, WE HAVE, IN OUR CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP OF 77, INITIATED RESOLUTIONS IN MULTILATERAL FORA, INCLUDING THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, CALLING FOR AN END TO NUCLEAR TESTS AND FOR STRICT ADHERENCE TO UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED IN THE REVIEW CONFERENCE. WE HAVE ALSO TAKEN AN ACTIVE ROLE IN PUSHING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOUTHEAST ASIA NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE.