The Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, referring to his communication of 25 May 2005, Ref.: CLCS.04.2005.LOS (Continental Shelf Notification) concerning receipt of the submission made by Ireland to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf, has the honour to submit the following observations by the Danish Government.

In accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982, to which both Denmark and Ireland are Parties, including its Annex II, and the Rules of Procedure of the Commission on the Continental Shelf, in particular Annex I thereto, the actions of the Commission shall not prejudice matters relating to delimitation of boundaries between States with opposite or adjacent coasts. According to the quotation in the Secretary-General's Note, the Government of Ireland states its view that “this portion of the shelf is not the subject of any dispute” and “its consideration by the Commission will not prejudice matters relating to the delimitation of boundaries between Ireland and any other States”.

However, it is not possible to assess the potential impact of the partial submission on further delimitation in the area. Such lack of assessment at this moment does not imply Denmark’s agreement or acquiescence to Ireland’s submission.
Consequently, the submission made by Ireland and the Commission's recommendations are without prejudice to any future submission made by Denmark nor to the delimitation of the continental shelf in the Hatton-Rockall area between Denmark/The Faroe Islands and Ireland.

The Permanent Mission of Denmark to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary-General of United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, August 19, 2005

H.E. the Secretary-General
of the United Nations

New York