Ref.: FNY09050020/97.A.001

The Permanent Mission of Iceland presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour, with reference to the latter's Note Verbale Ref: DESA-09/0314, dated 6 March 2009, to convey the views of the Government of Iceland on the possibility of convening a high-level event on sustainable development.

The Government is prepared to consider the idea with an open mind. In light of the high cost involved, the utility of such a conference would need to be demonstrated beforehand. Furthermore, a conference of this kind should be forward looking and not take the form of a review conference. The issue of timing would need to be carefully considered, in particular in relation to other related events taking place in the next few years, as well as the multi-year program of work of the Committee on Sustainable Development. In brief, the convening of a high-level event on sustainable development would not seem to be ripe for decision.

The Permanent Mission of Iceland to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Permanent Mission of Iceland to the United Nations
New York, 27 May 2009

Secretariat of the United Nations
New York