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Adobe

November 8, 2013

The Honorable Robert Menendez
Chairman
Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob Corker
Ranking Member
Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Menendez and Ranking Member Corker:

I am writing to express Adobe's support for ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Treaty Doc. 112-7. Users with disabilities in this country enjoy a high level of protection under domestic laws, and ratifying this treaty will help encourage greater cooperation globally and extend the influence of the United States in this area.

Adobe builds products to support a global audience – content from websites and documents, smartphone applications, video content and more are built using Adobe tools and technologies. As countries around the world recognize that providing accessible content and technology is critical for an inclusive and self-sufficient populace, Adobe and other technology providers are positioned to help content-providers efficiently address accessibility requirements. Accomplishing this goal at a global scale is possible only when accessibility standards are harmonized, and ratification of this treaty by the United States will underscore that accessibility is an area in which international coordination is essential.

We believe that ratification will lead to greater opportunities for people with disabilities globally, and avoids unnecessary complexity resulting from adoption of non-harmonized technology standards for accessibility in different countries. For these reasons Adobe urges the Senate to offer its advice and consent to ratification of Treaty 112-7.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew Kirkpatrick".

Andrew Kirkpatrick
Group Product Manager, Accessibility