



**MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
**REPUBLIC OF LATVIA**

Riga, 25 November 2002

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

On behalf of Latvia, I would like to convey to you the deep sense of gratitude for the decision of the Heads of State and Government of the NATO's member countries to invite Latvia to begin the accession talks for joining NATO Alliance. We received this invitation with enthusiasm, and I would like to confirm Latvia's interest and readiness to proceed with the accession negotiations.

Latvia's Cabinet of Ministers in its extraordinary meeting has today established the delegation headed by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mr. Māris Riekstiņš that is charged with negotiating Latvia's accession to the Alliance. We are looking forward to speedy and constructive talks during the coming months.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sandra Kalniete".

Sandra Kalniete  
Minister of Foreign Affairs

**The Rt. Hon. Lord Robertson of Port Ellen**  
**Secretary General**  
**NATO**