

2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

13 April 2015

Original: English

New York, 27 April-22 May 2015

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Working paper submitted by Australia, Hungary, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan and Nigeria*

1. The 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and listed five actions to take.
2. 2015 marks the seventieth year since the atomic bombings in time of war, and in 2016 it will be 20 years since the opening for signature of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the establishment of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization. This presents a new opportunity to initiate political momentum for the urgent entry into force of the Treaty.
3. Since the 2010 Review Conference, there has been tangible progress on the number of new signatures and ratifications, including by one State listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty,¹ and on the verification regime for the Treaty.
4. Therefore, we recommend that the Conference:
 - (a) Reaffirm the vital importance and urgency of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;
 - (b) Urge the remaining eight States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty, whose ratification is necessary for the entry into force of the Treaty, to sign and ratify the

* Nigeria chairs the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization; Hungary and Indonesia are the current coordinators for facilitating the entry into force of the Treaty; Kazakhstan is the designated Co-Chair of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; Japan is the designated Co-Chair of the Conference and a co-coordinator for the Friends of the Treaty; and Australia is a co-coordinator for the Friends of the Treaty. The present working paper is submitted by those six countries in their national capacity.

¹ Thirteen States have ratified the Treaty since April 2010: Angola, Brunei Darussalam, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iraq, Niue and Trinidad and Tobago.



Treaty without further delay, bearing in mind that the Treaty was opened for signature almost 20 years ago, and call on those States to take individual initiatives to sign and ratify the Treaty, including not waiting for other States to sign and ratify it;

(c) Affirm the responsibility of all States to promote the Treaty with a view to its urgent entry into force and universalization;

(d) Pending the entry into force of the Treaty, reaffirm the importance of maintaining the moratoriums on nuclear test explosions and refraining from any action that could defeat the objective and purpose of the Treaty;

(e) Encourage all States to actively participate in and contribute to the ninth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, in September 2015;

(f) Encourage all States to actively participate in the annual International Day against Nuclear Tests, which has been instrumental in increasing awareness and education about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions;

(g) Recognize that the establishment of the Group of Eminent Persons by the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization will support the activities of ratifying States to promote the objectives of the Treaty and to facilitate its early entry into force;

(h) Recognize that the operational readiness of the verification regime of the Organization was clearly demonstrated by the timely and accurate detection of the three nuclear test explosions conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

(i) Recognize in this regard also the successful conduct of the Integrated Field Exercise 2014 in Jordan;

(j) Recall the rapid response of the Preparatory Commission to the Great East Japan Earthquake and the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant in 2011, and underline the importance of cooperation between the Preparatory Commission and other relevant international organizations in this regard, including in the context of the Inter-Agency Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies;

(k) Recognize the importance of capacity-building to implement the verification regime;

(l) Reiterate its encouragement to the Preparatory Commission to fully develop the verification regime for the Treaty, including early completion and operationalization of the international monitoring system in accordance with the mandate of the Preparatory Commission, which should, upon entry into force of the Treaty, serve as an effective, reliable, participatory and non-discriminatory verification system with global reach and provide assurance of compliance with the Treaty;

(m) Emphasize the need for further political and material support to enable the Preparatory Commission to complete all its tasks.