

Dist. GENERAL

12 September 2023

Original: English

**Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force
of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty**

22 September 2023

**DRAFT FINAL DECLARATION
AND MEASURES TO PROMOTE THE ENTRY INTO FORCE
OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY**

FINAL DECLARATION

1. We, the ratifying States, together with other States Signatories, met on 22 September 2023 to discuss concrete measures to facilitate the urgent entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). We are deeply concerned that 27 years after opening for signature of the CTBT, the prospect for entry into force of the Treaty remains unclear. We affirm that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. We reaffirm the vital importance and urgency of the entry into force of the CTBT and urge all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level.
2. We reaffirm that overwhelming support for the Treaty and the urgency of its entry into force has been expressed by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), most recently in resolution A/RES/77/94; the United Nations Security Council Summit on nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament in New York on 24 September 2009, which adopted resolution 1887; the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-up actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT); the tenth NPT Review Conference held in New York and the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the eleventh Review Conference held in Vienna; the expressions of support for the Treaty made through relevant United Nations organs; the calls for the entry into force as soon as possible of the CTBT made during meetings of States Parties of relevant international legally binding instruments on disarmament and non-proliferation and international and regional meetings; and all the resolutions and decisions adopted by the United Nations that are relevant in the context of the CTBT, demonstrate continued strong international will and support to see this Treaty brought into force. We recall the deep concern expressed in the outcome document of the 2010 NPT Review Conference with respect to

the “catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons”. We reconfirm that wide support has been expressed at the NPT Review Conferences since the CTBT opened for signature in 1996 for the importance of the entry into force of the CTBT at the earliest possible date as a vital multilateral instrument for nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.

3. We reiterate the importance of the process of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT and encourage continued efforts in this regard. We welcome the range of mutually supportive ratification outreach activities, including, among others, activities of the Group of Eminent Persons (GEM), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) Youth Group, and individual efforts by States Signatories including the High-level Meeting of the “Friends of the CTBT”, which share the objective of early entry into force of the Treaty. We highlight the support given by the Executive Secretary and the Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) of the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO to those activities.
4. We welcome that 187 States have signed and 178 States have ratified the CTBT, including 36 whose ratification is necessary for its entry into force (Annex 2 States). In this respect, we welcome progress made towards universalization of the Treaty and recognize the significance of the signature and ratification of the Treaty by Dominica, completing adherence to the Treaty across the Latin American and the Caribbean region, and its ratification by Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Sao Tome and Principe and Solomon Islands and Sri Lanka since the 2021 Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT. We urge the remaining eight Annex 2 States (listed in the Appendix), whose ratification is necessary for the entry into force of the CTBT, to sign and ratify the CTBT without further delay, bearing in mind that the CTBT was opened for signature over 27 years ago, and call upon these States to take individual initiatives to sign and ratify the CTBT. In this regard, we would welcome opportunities to engage with non-signatory States, in particular Annex 2 States. We would therefore like to encourage these States to participate as appropriate in future sessions of the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO as observers.
5. We further reiterate the statement in the CTBT Preamble that “the cessation of all nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions, by constraining the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and ending the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, constitutes an effective measure of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects”. Pending the entry into force of the CTBT, we reaffirm our commitments, as expressed in the conclusions of the 2010 NPT Review Conference, and call on all States to refrain from nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, the development and use of new nuclear weapon technologies and any action that would undermine the object and purpose and the implementation of the provisions of the CTBT. As any resumption of nuclear tests would be contrary to the objective of the Treaty, we call on all States to reaffirm and maintain all existing moratoria on nuclear weapon test explosions, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect to end nuclear weapon testing and all other nuclear explosions, which can only be achieved with the entry into force of the Treaty.

6. We note with regret that, since the 2021 Article XIV Conference there has been no tangible progress towards the ratification of the CTBT by nuclear weapon States, which have not yet ratified the Treaty, which is detrimental to our joint efforts to promote the entry into force of the Treaty. We strongly encourage these nuclear weapon States to ratify the CTBT without delay and preconditions. We recall with resolve the undertaking by all nuclear-weapon States to ratify the CTBT with all expediency, while also noting that positive decisions by nuclear-weapon States will have a beneficial impact towards the entry into force and universalization of the Treaty.
7. Recalling paragraph 5 of this statement, with regard to the prohibition of nuclear tests, we recall our condemnation of the six nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) since 2006. We appreciate the effectiveness of the CTBT verification regime demonstrated in relation to those nuclear tests, which highlight the urgent need for entry into force of the Treaty. We note with growing concern the DPRK's latest nuclear rhetoric, including its announcement on 9 September 2022 of an updated law on nuclear policy specifying conditions for the use of nuclear weapons. We reiterate the importance of the full implementation of all relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, stating that "the DPRK shall abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner, and immediately cease all related activities" while "keeping the DPRK's actions under continuous review", and being "prepared to strengthen, modify, suspend or lift the measures as may be needed in light of the DPRK's compliance". We underscore the importance of the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner. We call upon the DPRK not to conduct further nuclear tests and to sign and ratify the CTBT and return to substantive negotiations. We also stress the importance of creating favourable conditions for a diplomatic and peaceful solution and of reducing tensions on the Korean Peninsula. We support and encourage the international community's efforts and initiatives in all available and appropriate forums, including through Six-Party Talks, as well as confidence building measures to reduce tensions and achieve sustainable peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.
8. We remain fully committed to providing the political, technical and financial support required to enable the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO to complete all its tasks in the most efficient and cost effective way, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty and the 1996 Resolution establishing the Preparatory Commission, in particular the further build-up of all elements of the verification regime, which will be unprecedented in its global reach. We note with satisfaction the further progress achieved in the establishment of the International Monitoring System (IMS), which currently has 304¹ certified facilities, the functioning of the International Data Centre (IDC), and the continuing progress in enhancing on-site inspection capabilities including through the conduct of build-up exercises and the preparations to conduct the next Integrated Field Exercise. We welcome the transmission of IMS data to the IDC by all States on a testing and provisional operational basis before the entry into force of the Treaty, in accordance with the approved guidelines of the Nineteenth Session of the Preparatory Commission. We look forward to the entry into force of the Treaty, in accordance with Article XIV

¹ To be updated if needed.

thereof, recognizing that only this will allow the use of the verification regime, with all of its elements, for verification purposes.

9. While bearing in mind the Treaty's objective, as specified in its preamble and provisions, regarding nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, we are encouraged by the fact that the IMS and the IDC of the CTBT verification regime, in addition to their verification role, have also demonstrated their utility in bringing tangible scientific and civil benefits, including for tsunami warning systems. We will continue to consider ways of ensuring that these benefits, and possibly other disaster alert systems, can be broadly shared by the international community in conformity with the Treaty, the Resolution establishing the Preparatory Commission, and under the guidance of the Preparatory Commission. We also recognize the importance of capacity building and the sharing of relevant expertise on the verification regime, including through holding Science and Technology conferences.
10. We reaffirm our determination to take concrete and actionable steps towards early entry into force and universalization of the Treaty, and to this end adopt the following measures:
 - (a) Spare no effort and use all avenues open to us to encourage further signature and ratification of the Treaty, and urge all States to sustain the momentum generated by this Conference and remain seized of the issue at the highest political level;
 - (b) Support and encourage mutually supportive outreach initiatives and activities at the bilateral, regional and multilateral levels to promote the entry into force and universalization of the Treaty;
 - (c) Encourage ratifying States to continue the practice of designating coordinators to promote cooperation aimed at promoting further signatures and ratifications, taking note of a coordinators' action plan to implement the measures adopted in this declaration;
 - (d) Establish a contact list of countries among ratifying States which volunteer to assist the coordinators in various regions in promoting activities to achieve early entry into force of the Treaty;
 - (e) Encourage the remaining Annex 2 States to provide, on a voluntary basis, information on practical steps towards signature/ratification of the Treaty;
 - (f) Recognize the role of GEM in assisting activities of ratifying States to promote the objectives of the Treaty and to facilitate its early entry into force;
 - (g) Encourage all States to actively participate in the annual International Day against Nuclear Tests as established by the UNGA resolution A/RES/64/35, which has been instrumental in increasing awareness and education about the effects of nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions;
 - (h) Encourage the organization of regional seminars in conjunction with various regional meetings in order to increase awareness of the important role the Treaty plays and encourage the sharing of experience within regions;
 - (i) Call upon the Preparatory Commission to continue its international cooperation activities and the organization of workshops, seminars and training programmes in the legal and technical fields for the purpose of ratification outreach;

- (j) Call upon the Preparatory Commission to continue to promote the understanding of the Treaty, including through education and training initiatives, and demonstrating the benefits of the civil and scientific applications of the verification technologies to wider audiences, bearing in mind the purpose and specific mandates as foreseen in the Treaty;
- (k) Request that the PTS continue to provide States with legal assistance with respect to the ratification process and implementation measures and, in order to enhance these activities and their visibility, maintain a list of national contact points for the exchange and dissemination of relevant information and documentation;
- (l) Request the PTS to continue to act as a focal point for collecting information on outreach activities undertaken by ratifying States and other States Signatories, and to maintain a consolidated and updated overview of the information based on inputs provided by ratifying States and other States Signatories;
- (m) Encourage cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other elements of civil society to raise awareness of and support for the Treaty and its objectives, as well as the need for its early entry into force;
- (n) Reaffirm the need to fully support the work of the Preparatory Commission to complete the verification regime through international cooperation and the need to continue capacity building and the sharing of expertise;
- (o) Encourage all States to participate in and contribute to the completion of the verification regime and support the endeavors to enhance the effectiveness of the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO through technical and political support to the PTS.

Appendix to the Final Declaration and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Lists of States

A. States that have ratified the Treaty

Afghanistan	Gambia	Niue
Albania	Georgia	North Macedonia
Algeria	Germany	Norway
Andorra	Ghana	Oman
Angola	Greece	Palau
Antigua and Barbuda	Grenada	Panama
Argentina	Guatemala	Paraguay
Armenia	Guinea	Peru
Australia	Guinea-Bissau	Philippines
Austria	Guyana	Poland
Azerbaijan	Haiti	Portugal
Bahamas	Holy See	Qatar
Bahrain	Honduras	Republic of Korea
Bangladesh	Hungary	Republic of Moldova
Barbados	Iceland	Romania
Belarus	Indonesia	Russian Federation
Belgium	Iraq	Rwanda
Belize	Ireland	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Benin	Italy	Saint Lucia
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Jamaica	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Japan	Samoa
Botswana	Jordan	San Marino
Brazil	Kazakhstan	Sao Tome and Principe
Brunei Darussalam	Kenya	Senegal
Bulgaria	Kiribati	Serbia
Burkina Faso	Kuwait	Seychelles
Burundi	Kyrgyzstan	Sierra Leone
Cabo Verde	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Singapore
Cambodia	Latvia	Slovakia
Cameroon	Lebanon	Slovenia
Canada	Lesotho	Solomon Islands
Central African Republic	Liberia	South Africa
Chad	Libya	Spain
Chile	Liechtenstein	Sri Lanka
Colombia	Lithuania	Sudan
Comoros	Luxembourg	Suriname
Congo	Madagascar	Sweden
Cook Islands	Malawi	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Malaysia	Tajikistan
Côte d'Ivoire	Maldives	Thailand
Croatia	Mali	Timor-Leste
Cuba	Malta	Togo
Cyprus	Marshall Islands	Trinidad and Tobago
Czechia	Mauritania	Tunisia
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mexico	Türkiye
Denmark	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Turkmenistan
Djibouti	Monaco	Tuvalu
Dominica	Mongolia	Uganda
Dominican Republic	Montenegro	Ukraine
Ecuador	Morocco	United Arab Emirates
El Salvador	Mozambique	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Equatorial Guinea	Myanmar	United Republic of Tanzania
Eritrea	Namibia	Uruguay
Estonia	Nauru	Uzbekistan
Eswatini	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	Vanuatu
Ethiopia	New Zealand	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Fiji	Nicaragua	Viet Nam
Finland	Niger	Zambia
France	Nigeria	Zimbabwe
Gabon		

B. The 44 States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty whose ratification is required for entry into force in accordance with Article XIV

Algeria	Finland	Poland
Argentina	France	Republic of Korea
Australia	Germany	Romania
Austria	Hungary	Russian Federation
Bangladesh	India	Slovakia
Belgium	Indonesia	South Africa
Brazil	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Spain
Bulgaria	Israel	Sweden
Canada	Italy	Switzerland
Chile	Japan	Türkiye
China	Mexico	Ukraine
Colombia	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Norway	United States of America
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Pakistan	Viet Nam
Egypt	Peru	

1. States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty that have signed and ratified the Treaty

Algeria	France	Russian Federation
Argentina	Germany	Slovakia
Australia	Hungary	South Africa
Austria	Indonesia	Spain
Bangladesh	Italy	Sweden
Belgium	Japan	Switzerland
Brazil	Mexico	Türkiye
Bulgaria	Netherlands (Kingdom of the)	Ukraine
Canada	Norway	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Chile	Peru	Viet Nam
Colombia	Poland	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Republic of Korea	
Finland	Romania	

2. States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty

China	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	United States of America
Egypt	Israel	

3. States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty that have not yet signed the Treaty

Democratic People's Republic of Korea	India	Pakistan
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