



**CTBTO**  
PREPARATORY COMMISSION

PUTTING AN  
END TO NUCLEAR  
EXPLOSIONS

### Statement from Dr. Robert Floyd

#### Executive Secretary of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

I am aware of recent media reports about the possibility of the Russian Federation revoking its ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

The [Russian Federation](#) has consistently reaffirmed its strong support of the CTBT since its very inception, helping to negotiate the Treaty in the Conference on Disarmament, signing the day it opened for signature on 24 September 1996, and ratifying it in June 2000.

Russia plays an important role in the work of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, hosting the second largest segment of International Monitoring System (IMS) stations (32 stations) which, thanks to the dedicated work of Russian officials, is to be completed this year.

It would be concerning and deeply unfortunate if any State Signatory were to reconsider its ratification of the CTBT. We have seen renewed momentum in ratifications in the last two years, to a current total of 178 states.

The CTBT has established a powerful norm against nuclear testing and is making an invaluable contribution to international peace and security, for the good of humanity. It is more important than ever that we reinforce that contribution.

I look forward to continued close cooperation with the Russian Federation and all States that have committed to creating a world free of nuclear testing.

#### **Background**

[The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty \(CTBT\)](#) bans all nuclear explosions everywhere, by everyone, and for all time. Adherence to the Treaty is nearly universal, with [187 signatory states and 178 ratifying states](#). To enter into force, the Treaty must be ratified by all 44 States listed in its Annex 2, for which eight ratifications are still required.

The CTBT establishes an International Monitoring System (IMS) to ensure that no nuclear explosion goes undetected. Currently, 305 certified facilities – of a total of 337 when complete – are operating around the world, using four main technologies: seismic, hydroacoustic, infrasound and radionuclide.

The data registered by the IMS has also been used for disaster mitigation such as earthquake monitoring and tsunami warning, as well as research into fields as diverse as whale migration, climate change and the prediction of monsoon rains. You can learn more about the Treaty and the Organization at [www.ctbto.org](http://www.ctbto.org) and @CTBTO on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#).