

Note to Correspondents

4 August 2003

Media arrangements for the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Vienna, 3 – 5 September 2003

The Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty will be held at the Austria Centre, Vienna, Austria, from 3 to 5 September 2003. All media wishing to cover the Conference, including those accompanying heads of delegations, must be accredited. Correspondents already in possession of a valid VIC grounds pass will not need additional accreditation for the Conference.

The Media Accreditation Centre for the Conference will be located on the U2 level of the Austria Centre, at the entrance to Foyer D. Access to the Conference will be through the Foyer D entry, or through the connecting door from the VIC. Media can obtain accreditation at the Austria Centre as of Wednesday 3 September, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Throughout the rest of the Conference the hours will be from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Conference passes will be issued upon presentation of a letter of assignment from the correspondent's Editor-in-Chief, along with two pieces of photo identification (such as passport, national press credentials, police press pass, driver's licence, etc.). For security reasons, members of the press corps will be required to wear both their grounds pass and national press ID at all times. Access to the Conference will be restricted to those persons who are accredited to the Conference or wearing a VIC grounds pass.

Correspondents are encouraged to apply for accreditation in advance by submitting a completed accreditation form available from:

- Media Accreditation, Public Information, CTBTO Preparatory Commission, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 1200, A-1400 Vienna, Austria. Tel.: +43-1-26030 6200; Fax: +43-1-26030 5823; E-mail: info@ctbto.org with the heading AFC Media Accreditation in the subject field; or
- The CTBTO web site at www.ctbto.org, in the Article XIV Conference area, under Press Centre.

The completed form should be faxed, along with a letter of assignment from the correspondent's Editor-in-Chief addressed to the Chief, Public Information, to +43-1-26030 5823. It is not possible to send an acknowledgement, but journalists may follow up by telephoning +43-1-26030 6200.

Entry and screening procedures

The designated press entrance for the Conference is the Foyer D entry, U2 level, of the Austria Centre. All media representatives will be required to present a valid VIC grounds pass or Conference pass to the United Nations security officers at the entrance gate. The gate will be open at 8 a.m. throughout the Conference. If media with equipment need to arrive prior to 8 a.m., they should make special arrangements by calling +43-1-26030 6200 to arrange clearance. All press personnel are advised to arrive early to allow sufficient time for screening. Last-minute arrivals might encounter delays.

Press working area

The press working area is located in Foyer D, U2 level, of the Austria Centre. Documents, including press releases, will be distributed via the Press Rack in that area. Media representatives will have access to the Conference plenary hall.

Audiovisual materials and services

Video tape of the opening and closing sessions of the Conference will be available after the Conference upon request. Inquiries should be directed to Public Information, CTBTO Preparatory Commission.

Photographs will be available for purchase from the commercial photographer who will have a desk on the U2 level of the Austria Centre. Photographs of morning speeches will be available, if possible, during the afternoon of the same day; afternoon speeches, the following morning, if possible.

Use of room for interviews

A room for interviews is available to the press. Kindly book in advance by calling +43-1-26030 6200 or through the press liaison desk in the Press Area. Media must bring their own equipment, including lights for television.

Visual coverage in the plenary hall

Media representatives will have access to the Conference plenary hall. Persons wishing to bring in and set up television cameras are requested to arrange this through the press liaison desk in the Press Area.

Copies of statements for the press

Statements of heads of delegations will be available as provided by delegations at the Press Documents Distribution Counter, located at the press liaison desk in the Press Area of the Austria Centre. Coin operated copying facilities will be available.

Press release coverage

Press release coverage in English of the Conference Sessions will be available. Releases may be obtained from the press liaison desk in the Press Area of the Austria Centre. Further queries should be directed to Public Information, tel: +43-1-26030 6200.

Background material

For press materials, information about the Conference, suggestions for interviews and other related assistance contact Public Information, Ms. Daniela Rozgonova, tel: +43-1-26030 6375, email: daniela.rozgonova@ctbto.org or Ms Eleanor Cody, tel: +43-1-26030 6127, email: eleanor.cody@ctbto.org.

On the Internet, the press kit for the Conference and other background materials can be found at www.ctbto.org in the Article XIV Conference area. During the Conference, this site will provide up-to-date information about documents, schedules and NGO activities.

Press briefings

A pre-Conference press briefing will be held on 29 August in the VIC with the Chairperson of the Preparatory Process for the Conference and the Secretary of the Conference.

During the Conference, briefings will be held in D-357 beside the Press Area on the U2 level as follows:

3 September, 12:45 p.m., President and Secretary of the Conference

4 September, 2:30 p.m., President of the Conference

5 September, 1:30 p.m., President of the Conference

Any other press conferences will be announced daily and will be posted up in the Press Area.

Ms. Daniela Rozgonova, Chief, Public Information, Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO, will be the spokesperson for the joint Conference Secretariat (Department of Disarmament Affairs, UN; Provisional Technical Secretariat, CTBTO Preparatory Commission). The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Mr Erkki Tuomioja, will be the spokesperson for the States.