

# Commission update

## Report on the June 2004 session

The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) held its Twenty-Second Session from 22 to 24 June 2004 in Vienna under the chairmanship of Ambassador Yukio Takasu of Japan. Eighty-eight Member States participated in the session. The League of Arab States attended as an observer.

### The report of the Executive Secretary

Mr Wolfgang Hoffmann, Executive Secretary of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission, reported on progress in the implementation of the verification regime and on administrative, legal and coordination matters. He informed the delegates that 130 stations and four radionuclide laboratories are participating in Phase 1 of the first system-wide performance test (SPT1), which started on 1 May 2004. Eighty-three out of the 337 IMS facilities have now been certified. Legal arrangements between Member States and the Commission are now in place for 322 IMS facilities in 81 countries.

Mr Hoffmann reported that the draft budget for 2005 was being presented in US dollars and euros for the first time. He noted that funding required for the safety and security upgrade at the Vienna International Centre, STP1 and the external review of the PTS structure goes beyond initial 2005 budget proposals. As of 15 June 2004, the collection rates of assessed contributions amounted to 82,6% for 2004 and 94,7% for 2003. Mr Hoffmann informed the delegates that the implementation of the CIF allotment stood at 30.4% as of 15 June.

### The plenary debate

The plenary debate focused on modalities for the appointment of an Executive Secretary, the review of the PTS organizational structure by an external review team and budgetary issues.

Member States welcomed the signing of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) by Saint Kitts and Nevis and Sudan, and the ratifications by Bahrain, Belize, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Serbia and Montenegro, Seychelles and Sudan since the last session of the Commission. Several delegations expressed their support for the future work of Special Representative Ambassador Jaap Ramaker of the Netherlands, to promote the early entry into force of the Treaty. The Commission decided to include Timor-Leste in the South East Asia, the Pacific and the Far East geographical region for the purposes of the activities of the Commission.

### Conclusions

The Commission adopted a decision on the appointment procedure for the future Executive Secretary and authorized the Chairperson of the Commission to take the next necessary steps. ■

## Chairperson of the Preparatory Commission



Ambassador Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan to the International Organizations in Vienna, is serving as Chairman of

the Preparatory Commission for 2004. Ambassador Takasu studied at the University of Tokyo and at Oxford University. He joined the diplomatic service in 1969 and served in various positions in the United Kingdom, Malaysia, Indonesia and at the United Nations in New York.

In the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo, he was responsible for Japan's policy on Western Europe and on the United Nations (1988-1992). In September 1993, Mr Takasu was appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Controller of the United Nations in New York, where he was in charge of the budgetary and financial operations of the UN.

Between 1997 and 2000, Mr Takasu served his country as Ambassador to the United Nations, representing Japan in the Security Council from 1997 to 1998. In early 2000, he was appointed Director-General of the Multilateral Cooperation Department in Tokyo, and subsequently, Ambassador in charge of civil society. He took up his present post in Vienna in 2001. ■