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**VIDEO MESSAGE TO THE CONFERENCE “COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-
TEST-BAN TREATY: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 2011”
Vienna, 8 June 2011 (recorded on 31 May 2011)**

CTBTO Preparatory Commission Executive Secretary Tibor Toth,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

This is an important meeting at an important time.

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty is widely recognized as a milestone in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

But above and beyond that central mission, and even before entering into force, the CTBT is saving lives.

When the devastating earthquake and tsunami hit Japan in March, the CTBTO provisional technical secretariat quickly sent data to Japan and other Pacific communities, and shared valuable information with the International Atomic Energy Agency.

When the Fukushima nuclear power plant was damaged, the CTBTO Preparatory Commission tracked the spread of radioactive materials, helping governments communicate to people about possible health effects.

Since then, I have outlined a five-point strategy to enhance the global nuclear safety regime. I launched a UN system-wide study on the implications of the Fukushima nuclear accident. And I am organizing a high-level meeting on nuclear safety and security this September.

The CTBT and its International Monitoring System will make a significant contribution to this effort.

I continue to call for the Treaty’s entry into force. Last year, at the NPT Review Conference, I suggested 2012 as the target year to make this happen. I am convening a special meeting in September in the hopes of generating further political momentum toward realizing this widely shared goal.

I commend your efforts to advance the science and technology that underpin the global ban on nuclear testing. I wish you a successful conference and look forward to our

continued work together to rid the world of nuclear weapons and prevent their proliferation.

Thank you.