



# Outreach

A key duty of the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission is to promote understanding of the objectives and principles of the Treaty. Essentially, this is done through interaction with the international community, including States, international organizations, academic institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). It involves educating people about the activities of the Commission, promoting signature and ratification of the Treaty by States and fostering international cooperation in the exchange of verification related technologies.

## HIGHLIGHTS IN 2007

- Ratification of the Treaty by the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Moldova and Palau
- International cooperation workshops for States of South-East Asia, the Pacific and the Far East in Manila and for States from the Caribbean region in Nassau
- Focused interaction with the Alliance of Small Island States, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations
- Media days, press briefings and presentations in Austria, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine and the USA
- Improvements to the public web site.

In the course of 2007, the PTS maintained dialogue with States through bilateral visits in capitals and interactions with Permanent Missions in Vienna, Berlin, Geneva and New York. The emphasis was on States hosting IMS facilities and States that have not yet signed or ratified the Treaty (particularly those listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty). Contacts were also made in the framework of relevant multilateral fora at international, regional and subregional levels.

The Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission visited the Bahamas, Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico, the Philippines and Slovakia with a view to strengthening their interaction with the organization.

To advance relationships with relevant international organizations as well as to reach out to States that have not yet signed or ratified the Treaty, the Executive Secretary and PTS staff members attended a number of multilateral gatherings.

## TOWARDS UNIVERSALITY OF THE TREATY

In 2007, the Treaty was ratified by the following four countries: the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Moldova and Palau.

As of 31 December 2007, the CTBT had been signed by 177 States and ratified by 141 States, including 34 of the 44 States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty, whose ratification is required for the Treaty to enter into force.

## INTERACTING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

The PTS continued its efforts in 2007 to raise awareness and enhance understanding of the Treaty, to facilitate the implementation of the decisions of the Commission on the establishment of the verification regime and, in particular, the installation of IMS facilities, and to promote signature and ratification and participation in the work of the Commission.

## Latin America and the Caribbean

There were many outreach opportunities in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2007. A celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Tlatelolco, which prohibits nuclear weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean, was held in Mexico City in February. The Committee on Hemispheric Security of the Organization of American States (OAS) held a special meeting on consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty of Tlatelolco as well as on the worldwide comprehensive nuclear test ban, in Washington, D.C., in March. In June, the thirty-seventh regular session of the OAS General Assembly met in Panama City. In November, the Bahamas hosted a PTS Regional Workshop on CTBTO International Cooperation for States from the Caribbean Region (see “International Cooperation” below).

PTS involvement in these fora provided numerous opportunities for repeated bilateral contacts with representatives of States that have still to sign or ratify the

CTBT. These efforts were rewarded when the Dominican Republic ratified in September and the Bahamas ratified in November. A number of other States also made declarations of intent to sign and/or ratify the Treaty, notifying the PTS that progress was being made internally.

### Small Island States

Small island States, whether in the Pacific, Caribbean, Asian or African region, constitute a large share of the number of outstanding signatures and ratifications of the CTBT. For this reason, in 2007 the PTS began a cooperation initiative with the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). In October, the Executive Secretary was invited to address the AOSIS Plenary Meeting in New York. The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Grenada and was attended by representatives of the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cape Verde, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Maldives, Mauritius, Palau, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, and Tuvalu. The briefing provided an opportunity to those present to become better acquainted with the CTBT and the activities of the organization, and the feedback received was highly positive.

### Inter-Parliamentary Union

The PTS began a cooperation effort with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in 2007. The PTS was represented at the 116th Assembly of the IPU, which was held in Indonesia between 29 April and 4 May, and in November the Executive Secretary addressed the annual Parliamentary Hearing at United Nations Headquarters in New York. In 1999, the IPU adopted a resolution in support of the CTBT. It is hoped that, 10 years later, another resolution will be adopted in the 118th Assembly. The PTS is assisting States Signatories that have signalled to the organization their interest in presenting and supporting such a resolution.

### Liaising with the United Nations

The PTS continued its close liaison with the United Nations. To mark the 10th anniversary of the PTS, in March an exhibition was organized at the United Nations Office at Geneva entitled “Verifying the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban”. While in Geneva, the Executive Secretary met with senior representatives of the WMO, the IPU, the Geneva Centre for Security Policy and the European Organization for Nuclear Research to further promote the CTBT and to strengthen the relationship of the Commission with these organizations.

In New York, the Executive Secretary attended the general debates of the sixty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly in September and October. At the First Committee, he participated in a panel discussion together with the United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, the Director-General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the Representative of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to the United Nations. Addressing the First Committee, the Executive Secretary reported on the 2007 Conference for Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT (“Article XIV conference”), which was held in Vienna in September, and presented an overview of the progress made by the PTS since its inception. (For more information on the conference, see *Facilitating the Treaty's Entry into Force*.) While in New York, he met with the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr Ban Ki-moon.

### Further Activities

Further cooperation and coordination with international organizations and institutions included PTS participation in the 12th Annual Conference on Arabian Gulf Security: Internal and External Challenges in Dubai in March, the United Nations Workshop on Implementing United Nations Security Council



International cooperation workshop, Manila, Philippines, June 2007.

Resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa in Gaborone, Botswana, in November, the Twelfth Session of the Conference of the States Parties of the OPCW in The Hague, also in November, and the Sixth Republic of Korea–United Nations Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues in Seoul in December.

In Vienna, the Executive Secretary continued dialogue with States through the Permanent Missions and received a number of high level visitors, especially on the occasions of the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) (Vienna, 30 April to 11 May) and the Article XIV conference. These occasions provided further opportunities for bilateral discussions on common issues related to recent developments in the work of the Commission.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

In 2007, the PTS focused its workshop activities on States of the South-East Asia, the Pacific and the Far East region and of the Latin America and the Caribbean region. Workshops were held in June and November respectively, with several objectives: (a) enhancing the understanding of the CTBT, the work of the Commission and the technologies of the CTBT verification regime; (b) promoting the establishment of the verification regime in the region; (c) promoting the entry into force of the CTBT; (d) reviewing possible benefits of applying CTBT verification technologies for civil and scientific purposes; and (e) exploring and identifying various ways and means to promote Treaty cooperation among neighbouring States.

### Philippines

A Workshop on CTBTO International Cooperation for States of South-East Asia, the Pacific and the Far East

was held in June in Manila, Philippines, with the close cooperation of the host Government. Representatives from 15 countries in the region participated in the workshop.

Presentations were made by experts on a range of topics, including the political significance and membership benefits of the CTBT, the verification regime, NDCs, civil and scientific applications of the CTBT verification technologies, including tsunami warning systems, and promotion of cooperation among States Signatories. The workshop was informative and productive, and an excellent opportunity for participants to enhance their understanding of the CTBT and the role of the CTBTO in the international nuclear disarmament arena. Many countries, in particular the small island States, declared the IMS data and IDC products useful in combating natural disasters.

### Bahamas

In November, the PTS organized a Regional Workshop on CTBTO International Cooperation for States from the Caribbean Region in Nassau, Bahamas, at the invitation of the Government. The workshop was funded by a voluntary contribution from the Government of Austria. It was attended by representatives from 11 Caribbean countries, as well as from the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Chairperson of the Preparatory Commission, the Presidency of the 2007 Article XIV conference, and speakers from Canada, Mexico, Peru and the Universities of Puerto Rico and the West Indies.

During the workshop, a high level round table meeting was held with representatives of those States in the region that have yet to sign or ratify the Treaty. The meeting was chaired by the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Security of the Bahamas. On the margins of the workshop, the Executive Secretary held bilateral meetings with the Acting Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, the Honourable Mr Brent Symonette, and with the Acting Minister of National Security, Senator Elma Campbell.

On the first day, the Bahamas announced that it had sent its instrument of ratification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depositary of the Treaty, in New York. Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago also announced their intention to ratify the CTBT in the near future.

## **PROMOTING THE TREATY AND THE COMMISSION**

In 2007, PTS public information activities focused on the promotion of the Treaty and the work of the Commission to targeted audiences, including the media, States, NGOs, scientific and academic institutions, think tanks and public policy institutes.

The public web site served as the main tool for the dissemination of information, with the PTS relying increasingly on electronic dissemination techniques for communicating press releases and feature articles to targeted audiences, particularly in States that had not yet signed or ratified the Treaty.

Other tools that the PTS employed included briefings and presentations, the use of the CTBTO exhibition and film, as well as printed material, and participation in important disarmament and non-proliferation seminars and conferences.

## **Proactive Media Relations**

Press conferences were held in the context of the 10th anniversary of the PTS (March), meetings of the Preparatory Commission (June and November), the Article XIV conference (September) and the United Nations General Assembly (October). Over 370 articles referring to the CTBT were published in the world's media in 2007. In addition, a large number of individual press briefings and interviews were given to print and broadcast media. The PTS organized media days and press briefings during the OSI exercises and training courses in Ukraine (June), Sweden (August) and Hungary (October). Also, the PTS assisted in the filming of documentaries on the CTBT verification regime by German, French–German and Japanese television networks.

## **Targeted Outreach**

In cooperation with the Geneva Forum, the PTS held a seminar entitled “Verifying Compliance with the Nuclear Test Ban” in March at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The CTBTO exhibition was displayed for two weeks.

A CTBTO information booth and exhibition on “Verifying the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban” ensured the visibility of the PTS at the 2007 meeting of the NPT Preparatory Committee in Vienna in April and May. A CTBTO information booth with the CTBTO film and live-feed data on display gave an opportunity for the nearly eight hundred participants at the Carnegie International Nonproliferation Conference in Washington, D.C., in June to familiarize themselves with the Treaty and its verification regime.

The Article XIV conference in Vienna in September provided a natural opportunity for conducting specialized and focused outreach.



### State of the Art Public Web Site

The CTBTO public web site is a key tool for the broadest possible dissemination of information. Daily press articles referring to the Treaty and the work of the Commission are placed on the web site, along with CTBTO press releases and feature articles. Improvements in 2007 included the addition to the home page of areas dedicated to daily press articles, the CTBTO film, the 2006 nuclear test in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the status of payment of assessed contributions by States Signatories.

### Information Products

Although the PTS information strategy relies primarily on the electronic distribution of information, several



major printed products were produced and/or updated in 2007: (a) an issue of *CTBTO Spectrum* focusing on the North America and Western Europe region; (b) a special issue of *CTBTO Spectrum* on the occasion of the Article XIV conference; (c) a *Basic Facts* supplement entitled “The build-up of the IMS, the event in the DPRK, and tsunami early warning”, produced in English, French and Spanish; (d) *Objectives and Activities*, a leaflet translated into all six official languages of the United Nations; (e) *Potential Civil and Scientific Applications of the CTBT Verification Technologies*, a completely rewritten brochure including, among other things, information on the contribution of the Commission to tsunami warning; and (f) a brochure on the outcome of the Article XIV conference entitled *Conference Urges States to Ratify Nuclear Test Ban*. All products were made available on the public web site.

### CTBTO Film

In 2007, the script of the information film, *CTBT: For a Safer and More Secure World*, was rewritten. In addition to an exploration of the findings of the Commission in connection with the announced nuclear test in October 2006, with new footage, interviews and animations, a new introduction by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr Ban Ki-moon, was added, in which he urges support for the Treaty.