A key mandate of the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the CTBT Preparatory Commission is to promote understanding of the objectives and principles of the Treaty, the functioning of the Commission, the global CTBT verification regime, and the civil and scientific applications of the International Monitoring System. This is done through interaction with the international community, including States, international organizations, academic institutions, non-governmental organizations, the media and the general public. The outreach activities involve promoting signature and ratification of the Treaty by States, educating the general public about the work of the Commission and fostering international cooperation in the exchange of verification related technologies.

Outreach

Highlights in 2011

Sustained commitment to and interest in the Treaty and its entry into force, including deposit of instruments of ratification of the Treaty by Ghana and Guinea

Expansion of the Capacity Development Initiative

Increase in worldwide media coverage of the Treaty and the work of the Commission
A WATERSHED YEAR FOR THE TREATY

Over the years, the Commission has energetically pursued its objectives of raising awareness and enhancing understanding of the CTBT, establishing the verification regime and installing IMS facilities, and promoting CTBT signature and ratification. Events in 2009 and 2010 heightened the salience of the CTBT and its entry into force as never before. This renewed momentum for its entry into force and universality was sustained in 2011 as a result of several developments that have consolidated the political determination of the international community in favour of the Treaty. On 6 December, the Indonesian Parliament ratified the CTBT. With this strong showing of determination, Indonesia sent a powerful signal to the remaining States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty that have not yet signed or ratified the Treaty, as well as to other States that have not done so, about the importance of the CTBT for global and regional security. Overall, the CTBT promises to remain, as it has always been, a uniting force in the multilateral security system. The ratification by Indonesia will increase momentum and broaden support for entry into force while demonstrating that the Treaty continues to be a rallying point for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

One important precursor to the ratification by the Indonesian Parliament was the 2011 Article XIV conference, held on 23 September at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The ratifying States, together with other States Signatories, issued a powerful call for the remaining Annex 2 States to ratify the Treaty, calling entry into force “more urgent than ever before”. During the conference, the Indonesian Minister for Foreign Affairs reiterated the commitment of his Government to ratify the Treaty at an early date, signalling its intent to move quickly towards this goal. In November 2011, a delegation from the Indonesian Parliament visited Vienna for consultations with the Executive Secretary and PTS staff, the second such visit in 2011. Immediately following the November visit, the Defense and Foreign Policy Commission of the Indonesian Parliament adopted draft legislation to ratify the CTBT, sending the legislation to the plenary body for final approval on 6 December.

As of 31 December 2011, the Treaty had been signed by 182 States and ratified by 155 States, including 35 of the 44 States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty, whose ratification is required for the Treaty to enter into force.

The political support for the Treaty and the work of the Commission has reached an unprecedented level, as evinced by the near universal recognition in the international community that the Treaty is an effective instrument of collective security and an important pillar of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime. A growing number of States, politicians and representatives of civil society are spearheading the campaign for ratification of the Treaty by the remaining States, including the last of the 44 Annex 2 States. Through their efforts, the international community is sending a resounding message that the Treaty has a critical role to play in today’s security environment.

Maintaining and building on the momentum created in support of the Treaty requires the Commission to seize every suitable opportunity to further its objectives and explore modalities of engagement with States, as well as with civil society and the international scientific community. Future prospects for the CTBT depend on sustained political, technical and financial investment in the Treaty and its verification regime. This investment will pay dividends not only through enhancing international peace and security by verifiably ending nuclear testing, but also by building on the multilateral security architecture designed to create the conditions for a world free of nuclear weapons.

TOWARDS ENTRY INTO FORCE AND UNIVERSALITY OF THE TREATY

The Treaty moved closer to universalization in 2011 with ratification by Ghana and Guinea.

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INTERACTING WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

In 2011, the PTS continued efforts to facilitate implementation of decisions of the Commission on establishing the verification regime and promoting participation in its work. The PTS also maintained a dialogue with States through bilateral visits in capitals and
interactions with Permanent Missions in Vienna, Berlin, Geneva and New York. The major focus of such interactions was on States hosting IMS facilities and States that have not yet signed or ratified the Treaty (particularly those listed in Annex 2). All in all, the PTS took advantage of various international, regional and subregional conferences and other gatherings to enhance understanding of the Treaty and to advance its entry into force and the building of the IMS.

The Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission visited Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America with a view to strengthening their interaction with the Commission and highlighting the significance of entry into force of the Treaty.

On 25 March and 8 April, the Executive Secretary participated in two videoconferences organized by the Secretary-General of the United Nations with the heads of all international organizations involved in the response to the nuclear accident. The conferences focused on lessons learned by international organizations in relation to this event and ways to further strengthen cooperation and coordination. Among the participating organizations were the IAEA, WMO, the United Nations Development Programme, WHO and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs.

During the devastating earthquake and tsunami and subsequent nuclear accident in Japan, data from the IMS were disseminated in near real time to States Signatories and relevant international organizations, in particular the IAEA. The CTBT monitoring technologies were widely regarded as an important source of reliable information during these disastrous events. Throughout the course of the events, the Commission delivered a series of technical briefings to the IAEA with a view to efficient and effective cooperation. The Executive Secretary held meetings with the Director General of the IAEA on 16 and 21 March to discuss cooperation between the two organizations in sharing relevant data related to the Fukushima nuclear accident. Following consultations, the organizations immediately established a joint team of experts to make effective and strategic use of the data and data products shared. Among the data shared were data from radionuclide stations as well as relevant source data, which were used to enhance ATM.

On 21 June, the Executive Secretary addressed the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety. He explained how the IMS demonstrated that it was “tragically relevant” during the Fukushima nuclear accident.

The PTS also initiated and strengthened its cooperation with international organizations, including the IAEA, WHO and WMO, in the aftermath of the events in Japan. For example, the PTS started to attend meetings of the IAEA-organized IACRNE.

The Commission expanded its Capacity Development Initiative

**PARTICIPATING IN THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO THE FUKUSHIMA NUCLEAR ACCIDENT**

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The Commission expanded its Capacity Development Initiative

**ADVANCED SCIENCE COURSE**

AT A GLANCE

- 70,000 minutes watched online
- 2,000 clicks on lecture videos
- 425 registered participants from 105 countries
- 33 lectures delivered

**1 GOAL**

TRAIN THE NEXT GENERATION OF CTBT EXPERTS.

**15 YEARS OF THE TREATY**
in 2011. The initiative aims to build the necessary capacity in States Signatories to effectively confront political, legal, technical and scientific challenges that face the Treaty and its verification regime. As part of this initiative, the Commission has developed introductory and advanced courses dealing with various aspects of the Treaty and the verification regime.

From 5 to 9 September 2011, the Commission held a week-long introductory course entitled “Strengthening Verification, Enhancing Security: The Science and Political Significance of the CTBT”. The course addressed political, legal and security related aspects of the CTBT, as well as the science and technology that underpin the verification regime. The course targeted the diplomatic community, university students and faculty members, United Nations Disarmament Fellows and other interested individuals. Over one hundred participants attended the course in Vienna while 150 followed it on the public web site.

Following on from the introductory course, the Commission held an Advanced Science Course from 28 November to 9 December. The course was designed to enhance understanding of the CTBT verification technologies for individuals with a background or interest in the nuclear, geophysical or computer sciences, electronics, telecommunications or engineering. Topics included in-depth analysis of IMS verification technologies, OSI techniques and procedures, civil and scientific applications of the IMS, and IDC data products and their
role in the verification regime. More than four hundred participants from nearly one hundred countries either attended the course in Vienna or followed it via the public web site. Participants included IMS station operators, NDC analysts, academics and students, ambassadors and representatives from Permanent Missions, and members of international organizations and government institutions. The Commission continued to engage with dozens of academic institutions, think tanks, non-governmental organizations and international organizations in an effort to promote the Capacity Development Initiative and attract participation in future courses.

**UNITED NATIONS**

In addition to the seventh Article XIV conference on 23 September, the Executive Secretary took part in the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York from 18 to 24 September 2011. He met with a number of senior officials and government representatives and addressed a High-level Meeting on Nuclear Safety and Security, convened by the Secretary-General on 22 September. Throughout 2011, the Executive Secretary had meetings with the Secretary-General. PTS representatives also participated in several conferences sponsored by the United Nations with the aim of strengthening cooperation with academics and practitioners in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

**REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

The Executive Secretary met with the Secretary General of the Organization of American States in Washington, D.C., on 31 March 2011. He also met with the Chairman of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy and the Secretary General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean. During these meetings, the Executive Secretary discussed joint efforts to promote the CTBT in a regional context and ways to enhance cooperation between the Commission and these regional institutions.

**OTHER CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS**

On 28 February, the Executive Secretary delivered remarks at a conference organized by the Academic Council on the United Nations System, entitled “Connecting Academics and UN Practitioners – A Unique Encounter at the United Nations in Vienna”.

On 10 May, the Executive Secretary participated in a discussion on “Strengthening Preparedness for Nuclear Incidents and Emergencies at the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction”, which was held in Geneva. The session brought together disaster risk reduction, recovery and reconstruction experts. The United Nations Secretary-General as well as representatives from the IAEA, WHO, WMO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and a number of interested member States attended along with over five hundred other participants. The discussion highlighted the importance of integrating the knowledge and competence of national, regional and international disaster management organizations to respond to and manage these types of events.

The Executive Secretary attended the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Istanbul on 13 May and delivered a statement during the general debate. Bilateral meetings were held with the Foreign Ministers of the Gambia and the Solomon Islands.

At the 16th Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), which was held in Bali, Indonesia, from 25 to 27 May, the Executive Secretary had bilateral consultations with 13 ministers and other officials from ratifying and non-ratifying States, including Algeria, Angola, Chile, Cuba, Egypt, Guatemala (whose Parliament subsequently ratified the Treaty), Indonesia (whose Parliament subsequently ratified the Treaty), Iraq, Luxembourg, Morocco, the Philippines, Yemen and Zimbabwe. In the Final Document issued by the conference participants, the NAM ministers emphasized universal adherence to the CTBT, including by the nuclear weapon States, which should contribute to the process of nuclear disarmament.

At the invitation of Kazakhstan, the Executive Secretary delivered a statement to the 38th Session of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, which was held in Astana from 28 to 30 June.

From 6 to 7 July, the Executive Secretary participated in an EU seminar in Brussels to promote confidence building and in support of a process aimed at establishing a zone free of weapons of mass destruction and means of delivery in the Middle East.
The Executive Secretary attended the annual Summit on the Global Agenda. The event was hosted by the World Economic Forum in partnership with the United Arab Emirates and held in Abu Dhabi from 10 to 11 October.

From 12 to 13 October, the Executive Secretary attended the International Forum for a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World in Astana, Kazakhstan, marking the 20th anniversary of the closure of the former nuclear test site in Semipalatinsk, and delivered the keynote speech. During the forum, he also held bilateral consultations with the President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan and with other senior Kazakh officials.

The Executive Secretary delivered a keynote speech to the Tenth United Nations–Republic of Korea Joint Conference on Disarmament and Non-proliferation Issues, which was held from 7 to 8 November on Jeju Island, Republic of Korea.

**BILATERAL VISITS**

From 25 March to 9 April, a PTS delegation headed by the Executive Secretary undertook a bilateral mission to the USA. The Executive Secretary met with several high level officials in the US Administration and at several national laboratories. Among the matters discussed were the current and future prospects for CTBT ratification in the USA, as well as enhanced cooperation on technical and strategic levels between the Commission and the USA.

On 2 and 3 May, the Executive Secretary had meetings in Stockholm with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden as well as other high level officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Swedish Defense Research Agency and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The Executive Secretary also participated in and delivered a keynote address at a workshop, entitled “The Nuclear Renaissance and the Risks of Nuclear Proliferation in Asia”, which was organized by Stockholm University, SIPRI and the Swedish Pugwash Group.

From 27 to 30 September, the Executive Secretary undertook a bilateral mission to Moscow and met with a number of high level officials, including the Deputy Minister of Defence. He also met with the Deputy Director General of the State Atomic Energy Corporation, Rosatom. On 30 September, the Executive Secretary participated in a seminar at the Center for Policy Studies in Russia, entitled “15 Years of the CTBT: Achievements and Prospects”.

On 6 December, the PTS held a high level event commemorating the ratification by Indonesia. The event included statements from the Indonesian Ambassador to Austria and the Executive Secretary that were broadcast live from Jakarta via videoconference. In Vienna, representatives from Indonesia, Poland and the USA and the joint coordinators of the Article XIV process (Mexico and Sweden) welcomed the decision taken by Indonesia.

**OUTREACH**

The PTS holds regional and subregional workshops with the overall aim of encouraging political and technical cooperation in areas related to the Treaty, reviewing Treaty related achievements in support of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and promoting the entry into force and universality of the Treaty. Other objectives include enhancing the understanding of the Treaty as a regional security and confidence building measure, and developing national capabilities in the region for implementing the Treaty and participating in the verification regime. Participants also explore means of promoting the application of PTS data and products for civil and scientific purposes, and ways in which experience and expertise can be exchanged between the PTS and the relevant national agencies, as well as between the participating States.
From 24 to 25 March, over forty participants from nine countries, including four Annex 2 States, attended a Scientist-to-Scientist Workshop entitled “Technical Aspects of a Ban on Nuclear Testing” in Beijing. The workshop brought together scientists to discuss the technical underpinnings of the CTBT, as well as the potential civil and scientific applications of monitoring technology and data. The workshop included a brief session on the devastating earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan on 11 March. The workshop was organized by the Chinese Arms Control and Disarmament Association in Beijing and the Center on International Cooperation at New York University, with financial support from the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In cooperation with the Government of Turkey, a Cross-Regional Workshop on the Role of the CTBT in Regional and Global Security was held from 15 to 17 November in Istanbul. The workshop was designed to bring together national representatives from different regional groups, as well as members of a number of academic, research and security institutions, including the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia, and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The Executive Secretary delivered a statement at the opening session. The event gathered more than seventy political officials and technical experts from thirty countries spanning six geographical regions to exchange views and share information on the CTBT, its verification regime and the civil and scientific applications of CTBT technology. Participants consistently emphasized the considerable benefits of the CTBT for regional and global security and confidence building. They also conveyed the importance of sustaining the political momentum surrounding the Treaty as well as of signature and ratification by Annex 2 States and non-Annex-2 States that had yet to join the Treaty.
Proactive and strategically planned public information activities continue to be an integral part of the outreach efforts of the Commission in the political arena as well as in verification related fields. Particular events such as S&T2011 and the Article XIV conference received high publicity through tailor-made media campaigns. Intensified use was made of social media channels. Peak levels of media coverage were reached as a result of the Fukushima accident and the ratification of the Treaty by the Indonesian Parliament. Each event led to around six hundred articles and references by online and print media. The role of the Commission in the response to the Fukushima accident also featured prominently in broadcast media. The number of visits to the public website averaged 1200 daily, peaking at over 7000 during the Fukushima accident.

Public information outreach efforts included briefing journalists and interacting with States and civil society. Capacity building seminars for journalists were held in Beijing and on the margins of S&T2011. Public information activities flanked several bilateral visits by the Executive Secretary and his involvement in international conferences as well as regional workshops.

The video–audio project gained further momentum with 15 new video clips being produced. A public service announcement by Michael Douglas (United Nations Messenger of Peace) and a video for the new “Close the Door on Nuclear Testing” campaign were disseminated further by broadcast media worldwide. Videos were distributed via UNifeed, reaching over three hundred broadcasters around the globe. CNN broadcast the report on the OSI exercise in Jordan and Euronews reported on the former Semipalatinsk test site using the PTS animated graphics that explain the IMS technologies. A new series of articles was launched via social media to increase awareness of the risks of nuclear testing and the role of the CTBT in addressing them.

The publication Spectrum included contributions from the Swiss President and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Micheline Calmy-Rey, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Kamla Persad-Bissessar, the former President of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, and several other foreign ministers.

The intensified use of social media led to more than double the number of Internet users registering their support and interest via Facebook and Twitter compared with 2010. In addition, around fifty thousand visitors to the Vienna International Centre toured the permanent CTBTO exhibition. Temporary exhibitions were set up at the Carnegie International Nuclear
Policy Conference (28–29 March, Washington, D.C.) and at the celebration in Vienna for International Women’s Day.

**NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MEASURES**

In 2011, the PTS continued to promote the exchange of information between States Signatories on the subject of national implementation measures. For the first time, the PTS organized a pilot workshop on CTBT implementing legislation for requesting States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, which took place in Vienna on 1–4 November. The objective was to provide a venue to analyse and discuss the main elements of CTBT implementing legislation and other implementation measures, including during the preparatory phase. As a result of the meeting, participants elaborated proposals for national measures in their respective countries and provided valuable input for the further development of the PTS programme of legal assistance. It is expected that this workshop will serve as a reference for similar events in the future.