Outreach

Highlights in 2012

Deposit of instruments of ratification of the Treaty by Guatemala and Indonesia, and signature by Niue
Considerable expansion of education and outreach activities through the Capacity Development Initiative (CDI)
Innovative outreach and public information activities, in particular through upgrading of the public web site and use of social media

The Provisional Technical Secretariat of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission pursues outreach activities to promote universalization and entry into force of the Treaty. The Commission aims to enhance understanding of the Treaty and its verification regime, the functions of the Commission and the civil and scientific applications of CTBT verification technologies. Outreach entails interaction with the international community, including States, international organizations and non-State actors, such as academic institutions and the media. The interaction involves promoting signature and ratification of the Treaty by States, promoting understanding of the objectives, principles and benefits of the Treaty by government representatives and the general public, and fostering international cooperation in the exchange of verification related technologies.

Lanterns floating along the Motoyasu River in Hiroshima to commemorate those killed by the atomic bomb in 1945. The Executive Secretary of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission visited Hiroshima and Nagasaki in August 2012 to attend events marking the 67th anniversary of the bombing of the two cities.
The Treaty in 2012

The Treaty gathered momentum towards entry into force and universalization during 2012 as a result of several developments, such as the deposit, on 6 February, of the instrument of ratification by Indonesia at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The developments illustrate the political determination of the international community in favour of the Treaty. By ratifying, Indonesia highlighted the importance of the CTBT for global and regional security to the States that have not yet signed or ratified, especially those listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty, whose ratification is required for it to enter into force.

Political support for the Treaty and the work of the Commission continued to be strong. The Treaty has been recognized by the international community as an effective instrument of collective security and an important pillar of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime, as demonstrated by the support by 184 States for the Resolution on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (A/RES/67/76) in the United Nations General Assembly. A growing number of States, decision makers and representatives of civil society were spearheading the campaign for ratification of the Treaty by the States that have not yet done so, including the remaining Annex 2 States. States and regional organizations also continued to support the work of the Commission with voluntary contributions. Through these efforts, the international community has reinforced the understanding that the Treaty plays a critical role in today’s security environment.

Towards Entry into Force and Universality of the Treaty

The Treaty moved closer to universalization in 2012 with ratifications by Guatemala as well as Indonesia, and signature by Niue. In October, the Commission was informed that the Parliament of Iraq had ratified the Treaty.

As of 31 December 2012, the Treaty had been signed by 183 States and ratified by 157 States, including 36 of the 44 States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty.

Consultations were conducted with nearly all States that had not yet ratified or signed the Treaty, including all but one Annex 2 State. A large number of ratifying States, the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, as well as institutions such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) that work closely with the Commission to promote additional signatures and ratifications, were also consulted.
Interacting with the International Community

In 2012, 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 Berlin, Geneva, New York and Vienna. The major focus of such interactions was on States hosting IMS facilities and States that have not yet signed or ratified the Treaty, in particular those listed in Annex 2.

The PTS took advantage of various global, 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 PTS attended meetings of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy, the African Union, the IAEA, the IPU, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations General Assembly.

The Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission visited Canada, Egypt, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the USA to participate in high level events, and with a view to strengthening their interaction with the Commission and highlighting the significance of entry into force of the Treaty.

Capacity Development Initiative

The Commission continued to expand its CDI activities in 2012. The CDI is a key education and outreach activity that aims to build the necessary capacity in States Signatories to confront effectively the political, legal, technical and scientific challenges that face the Treaty and its verification regime.

On 11–12 June, the Commission held a seminar entitled “Engaging the Experts, Training the Trainers: A Seminar of CTBT Education in the 21st Century”. The seminar, the first of an annual series, aimed at providing methodological guidance for academics and researchers involved in CTBT related fields. It also served as a forum for dialogue between academics and representatives of international organizations on non-proliferation and disarmament education. Participants from over thirty academic institutions and five international organizations attended the seminar, representing a wide range of backgrounds and disciplines encompassing both policy oriented and technical fields.
The Commission held an Intensive Policy Course from 16 to 20 July, entitled “Multilateral Verification, Collective Security: The Contribution of the CTBT”. The course was attended by more than eighty participants in Vienna, with several hundred more following the course on the Internet. The course featured an unprecedented simulation of a future Executive Council deliberation over a request for an OSI. Around two hundred and fifty participants completed the necessary criteria and received a certificate of successful completion.

From 10 to 14 September, a special course was organized for a visiting group of United Nations Disarmament Fellows. The group consisted of 25 young diplomats from 25 countries, including several of the outstanding Annex 2 States. The course provided an overview of the CTBT and its verification system and included tours of the rooftop radionuclide station located at the Vienna International Centre and the Operations
Centre of the IDC. The fellows also visited an OSI base of operations in Bruckneudorf, south-east of Vienna, which was set up as part of an exercise in preparation for the IFE in 2014.

From 12 to 23 November, the Commission held an Advanced Science Course entitled “Around the Globe and Around the Clock: The Science and Technology of the CTBT”. The course was designed to enhance understanding of the CTBT verification technologies for individuals with a background or interest in nuclear, geophysical or computer sciences as well as electronics, telecommunications or engineering. The course was attended by 70 participants in Vienna, with many more participating online. The course included an observation of IDC analysis, tours of the rooftop radionuclide station and the Operations Centre, and a tour of the ESMF at Guntramsdorf, near Vienna. A high level one day event, entitled “Science for Peace: Applying Technical Expertise to Emerging Security Challenges”, was also held and included presentations.
by some of the world’s leading scientists and policy experts in CTBT related fields.

The Commission has achieved success in promoting online CTBT education and training materials with its iTunes U page. There are currently 12 different collections and two full courses on the page. Since the Commission established a presence on iTunes U in April 2012, the page has amassed over one thousand subscribers.

**United Nations**

The Executive Secretary took part in the opening of the general debate of the sixty-seventh regular session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, where he met with the foreign ministers of the Comoros, the Holy See, Iraq and Sweden, as well as other high level officials, including the US Acting Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security. Throughout 2012, the Executive Secretary had several meetings with the United Nations Secretary-General. PTS representatives also participated in a number of conferences sponsored by the United Nations with the aim of strengthening cooperation with academics and practitioners in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation.

The Executive Secretary delivered his report to the plenary of the United Nations General Assembly under the agenda item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization” (A/RES/67/9). On 3 December, the Resolution on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was supported by an overwhelming number of 184 States.

Over one hundred States Signatories associated themselves with the Joint Ministerial Statement on 27 September during the Ministerial Meeting in New York, which was hosted by the foreign ministers of Australia, Canada, Finland, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands and Sweden.

**Regional Organizations**

The Executive Secretary attended an event organized by the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) in Mexico City to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the opening for signature of the Treaty of Tlatelolco on 14 February.

The Executive Secretary undertook a mission to Egypt to attend the Ministerial Meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, which was held in Sharm El Sheikh from 9 to 10 May.

From 6 to 8 December, the Executive Secretary attended the 19th OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting in Dublin. On the margins, bilateral meetings were held with the foreign ministers and high level representatives of Austria, Denmark, Finland, the Holy See, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Norway and Turkey as well as with the Deputy Secretary General for Political Affairs of the External Action Service of the European Union.

**Other Conferences and Seminars**

The Executive Secretary delivered a welcoming address and participated in a panel discussion on nuclear disarmament during the second annual conference on “UN Agencies Connecting with Academics and the Civil Society”. The conference was held from 11 to 13 January at the Vienna International Centre and organized by the Academic Council on the United Nations System.

On 6 February, the Executive Secretary attended a ceremony at the United Nations Headquarters in New York at which Indonesia deposited its instrument of ratification of the Treaty.

The Executive Secretary attended a Wilton Park conference, entitled “Nuclear energy one year after Fukushima: challenges and responses”, at Wilton Park, United Kingdom, from 27 to 28 February.
The Executive Secretary delivered a keynote speech during the Fifth Annual Transatlantic Security Symposium, which was hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, USA, and held from 28 to 30 March.

On 24 April, the Executive Secretary was a keynote speaker at a seminar entitled “Towards a CBN Security Culture: Developing a Holistic Approach”, which was hosted in Vienna by the Permanent Mission of Hungary.

The Executive Secretary addressed the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which was held in Vienna from 30 April to 11 May. Over two hundred participants, including delegates and members of civil society, took advantage of the tours and lectures offered by the Commission in different languages.

On 3 May, the Executive Secretary delivered keynote remarks at a reception organized by the International Network of Emerging Nuclear Specialists on the margins of the session of the Preparatory Committee.

The Executive Secretary spoke at the “Scientific/Technical Experts’ Briefing on Nuclear Weapons Practices and Policies”, which was organized by the Global Security Institute and held in Vienna on 7 May.

On 8 May, the Executive Secretary participated in a panel discussion on “Nuclear Nonproliferation and Disarmament: Ideas for Russia”, which was organized by the Russian Center for Policy Studies (PIR Center) in Vienna and held at the premises of the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.

On 14 June, the Executive Secretary delivered a keynote dinner speech at the Annual NATO Conference on WMD Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, which was hosted by the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Budapest.

The Executive Secretary was a keynote speaker at the Wilton Park conference on “Verification in the 21st Century – technological, political and institutional challenges and opportunities”, which was held at the Wilton Park premises from 17 to 20 June.

From 5 to 12 August, the Executive Secretary attended the 67th Peace Ceremony in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, held bilateral meetings with the city mayors, visited the peace museums of both cities and spoke at their universities. In addition, he conducted an official visit to Tokyo and met with high level officials there. These activities and the International Day against Nuclear Tests on 29 August together helped to create a broad media coverage, including mentions in many Japanese and international news outlets.

The Executive Secretary visited The Hague on 3 September to take part in the celebration by the OPCW of the 15th anniversary of the entry into force of the Chemical Weapons Convention and to speak at the Third Summer Programme on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction in a Changing World, which was held at the T.M.C. Asser Institute.

The Executive Secretary travelled to New York in September to attend the United Nations General Assembly and the sixth Ministerial Meeting on promoting the entry into force of the CTBT.

From 3 to 4 October, the Executive Secretary participated in a workshop entitled “Fifty Years after the Cuban Missile Crisis: Science in Support of Nuclear Arms Control and Security”, which was hosted by the Center for International Strategy, Technology and Policy at the Georgia Institute of Technology in cooperation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

The Executive Secretary participated in the 127th Assembly of the IPU, which was held in Quebec City, Canada, from 21 to 26 October. There, he conducted bilateral meetings with representatives from Canada, Iraq, Ireland, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Yemen.

The Executive Secretary attended the fifth 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 Dubai from 12 to 14 November.
The Executive Secretary participated in the Fukushima Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Safety, which took place in Koriyama City, Japan, from 15 to 17 December.

**Bilateral Visits**

The Executive Secretary conducted high level meetings in Geneva with Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva, Keiji Fukuda, Assistant Director-General of WHO, and representatives of the World Economic Forum from 3 to 4 July.

The Executive Secretary delivered the School of Cosmic Physics 2012 Statutory Public Lecture in Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, on 17 September, which was entitled “Global Science for the Benefit of Security and Humankind”. During his visit to Dublin, the Executive Secretary also held a bilateral meeting with Joe Costello T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

**Information Visits**

The PTS organized three information visits to its offices in Vienna for representatives from selected States Signatories. The main objectives of these visits were to enhance the States’ understanding of the Treaty and raise awareness of the activities of the PTS. Delegations were briefed on the political aspects of the CTBT, including entry into force and universalization, the work of the Commission, the verification regime, including operation of the IMS and IDC, and technical support given to States Signatories, as well as the preparatory work for OSIs. Other presentation topics included membership benefits, capacity building and capacity development opportunities, and technical and legal support programmes offered by the PTS.

An information visit to the PTS for a representative from the Congo was conducted from 23 to 24 April. The representative met with the Executive Secretary and was given an overview of the work of the PTS and the CTBT verification technologies.

On 17 July, a high level delegation from China conducted an information visit. PTS staff provided presentations on capacity building. The delegation also attended the Intensive Policy Course.

From 14 to 16 November, the PTS organized an information visit for a group of representatives from Angola, Thailand and Yemen. Participants also had the opportunity to attend the Advanced Science Course.

**Promoting the Treaty and the Commission**

The PTS traditionally 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.

During 2012, the PTS engaged in the final stages of planning a high level regional conference in the South-East Asia, the Pacific and the Far East region. The objectives of this event will include promoting entry into force and ratifications in the region, as well as 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 will also explore means to promote the application of IMS data and IDC 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.

**Fifteenth Anniversary**

On 17 February, the Commission held a special event to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the organization. Speakers included the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, the Swedish Foreign Minister, Carl Bildt, the Austrian State Secretary for European and International Affairs, Wolfgang Waldner, and the Executive Secretary.
The Secretary-General paid tribute to the victims of over two thousand nuclear tests conducted worldwide:

“Nuclear tests poison the environment – and they also poison the political climate. They breed mistrust, isolation and fear. So today I issue a challenge to all leaders of all countries that have not endorsed the CTBT: Visit the site of a nuclear test. Speak to the population exposed to the fallout. Then take action to prevent this from ever happening again.”

The event received wide coverage in the international print and broadcast media.

A comprehensive exhibition on the Treaty and its verification regime was on display in the Rotunda of the Vienna International Centre throughout the month of February and was viewed by thousands of visitors. A special anniversary issue of the magazine CTBTO Spectrum was produced, as well as a commemorative video entitled A Grand Design Becomes Reality, featuring staff recollections of the 15 year journey of the organization. The Executive Secretary and the Director of the IDC Division spoke at a side event promoting the entry into force of the Treaty, which was organized by the US Arms Control Association in cooperation with the Vienna Center for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.

Public Information

Proactive and strategically planned public information activities continue to be an integral part of the outreach efforts of the Commission in verification related fields as well as in the political arena. Landmark events in 2012 included the commemoration of the 15th anniversary with the United Nations Secretary-General in February and the staged reading of the play “Reykjavik” during the week of the Ministerial Meeting in New York in September, both of which were flanked by tailor-made public information campaigns.

The public web site and social media channels of the Commission received on average around 150 000 visits monthly. The web site was updated with 31 highlight articles and 10 press releases. Twelve electronic newsletters were issued. The Commission considerably expanded its presence on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Flickr. The Commission ‘tweets’ reached over one million users in five cases, as a result of re-tweeting by the United Nations, with the Hiroshima commemoration having the highest number.

The revamped version of the public web site, which was launched in May, takes into account the increased importance of social media and audiovisual information.
by embedding relevant functions. It is also compatible with mobile computing devices.

On the YouTube channel, the videos attracted more than 85,000 visits, a fourfold increase over 2011. Social media guidelines were launched, encouraging the staff of the Commission to promote the activities of the organization in a more coherent manner. The “CTBTO Faces” series was launched, comprising in-depth interviews with people whose ideas, lives and work define the nuclear age. With 21 interviews to date, the series has quickly become a reference library of opinions on nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and verification issues. Two videos featuring OSI BUEs were produced.

The biannual publication CTBTO Spectrum included contributions from the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands and the foreign ministers of Chile, Finland, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Turkey and the United Kingdom as well as a former foreign minister of Japan and the heads of WHO and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO. The new CTBTO Spectrum app for the iPad includes current and previous issues, together with interactive slide shows and Treaty signature and ratification maps. Brochures on the verification regime and on civil and scientific uses of the verification technologies for Africa and the Latin America and the Caribbean region were issued in official languages of the United Nations. A brochure on the ASEAN States was issued in Thai.

Promotion and outreach work for the S&T2013 conference commenced and included targeted outreach work at scientific conferences as well as the creation of a dedicated web page, a brochure, a poster and a postcard.

Around fifty thousand visitors to the Vienna International Centre toured the permanent CTBTO exhibition, to which three new display walls were added. Permanent displays at the United Nations in New York and Geneva reached even more visitors. Over one thousand visitors to the Vienna International Centre received individual presentations. A service agreement was concluded with the United Nations Information Service in Vienna to
facilitate cooperation in promotion and outreach with regard to guided tours and lectures.

Global Media Coverage

Global media coverage of the Treaty and its verification regime remained high, with over 2700 articles and citations in online media alone.

In February, the 15th anniversary event organized by the Commission, at which the United Nations Secretary-General made a statement, received global media coverage, including in the remaining Annex 2 States.

Media coverage relating to the Treaty remained high in the USA, with numerous opinion pieces appearing, especially around the times of the publication of the report of the National Research Council in March and the presidential election in November. In October, the Chicago Tribune published an op-ed by the Executive Secretary, entitled “A nuclear world: 50 years after Cuban missile crisis; the world waits to move back the hands on doomsday clock”, reaching over half a million readers through hard copy alone. Similarly, in Asia there was a notable increase in interest throughout the year.

A CTBT related capacity building workshop for journalists and civil society was conducted in January in Cairo. An increase in media coverage in the region was observed in connection with the International Day against Nuclear Tests in August. Also, analysts pointed out the importance of adherence to the Treaty as a catalyst for progress towards a Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction.

Television feature stories about IMS stations PS9 and IS18 and two news packages, produced by the Commission, were distributed via United Nations TV and broadcast in several languages by stations globally. An interview with Mikhail Gorbachev produced by the Commission for the staging of “Reykjavik” was picked up and distributed worldwide.

National Implementation Measures

In 2012, the PTS continued to promote the exchange of information between States Signatories on the subject of national implementation measures. Following a format similar to that of the 2011 pilot workshop, a legislation workshop was run during the Intensive Policy Course. The workshop was held so that participants could exchange their experiences in the adoption of national implementation measures for the CTBT. To facilitate this exchange and the identification of elements for inclusion in implementing legislation, participants completed in advance a legislation questionnaire and discussed it during the meeting. Bilateral meetings with States Signatories were also held during 2012 to discuss draft legislation submitted to the PTS with a request for legal assistance. Presentations on implementing CTBT legislation were routinely delivered during the year at workshops, seminars and other events.