

# PROMOTING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY

## HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018

Strong political support for the Treaty and the work of the Commission

Ninth Ministerial Meeting of the Friends of the CTBT

Ratification of the Treaty by Thailand and signature of the Treaty by Tuvalu

معاهدة للحظر الشامل للتجارب النووية  
全面禁止核试验条约

COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

TRAITE D'INTERDICTION COMPLETE DES ESSAIS NUCLEAIRES

ДОГОВОР О ВСЕОБЩЕМ ЗАПРЕЩЕНИИ  
ЯДЕРНЫХ ИСПЫТАНИЙ

TRATADO DE PROHIBICIÓN COMPLETA  
DE LOS ENSAYOS NUCLEARES



Every two years, the States that have ratified the Treaty convene a Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT (also known as an Article XIV conference). In the years between Article XIV conferences, foreign ministers of States Signatories are invited to meet on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September. The aim of these Ministerial Meetings is to sustain and increase political momentum and public support for entry into force. To aid this, the ministers adopt and sign a joint statement that is open for adherence by other States. The initiative for these meetings was taken by Japan in cooperation with Australia and the Netherlands, which organized the first Friends of the CTBT Ministerial Meeting in 2002.

## Conditions for Entry into Force

The entry into force of the Treaty requires ratification by all 44 States listed in its Annex 2. These so-called Annex 2 States are States that formally participated in the final stage of the negotiation of the Treaty in the Conference of Disarmament in 1996 and possessed nuclear power reactors or nuclear research reactors at that time. As of 31 December 2018, 36 of these 44 States had ratified the Treaty. Of the eight Annex 2 States that had yet to ratify the Treaty, three still had not signed it.

## New York, 2018

The ninth Ministerial Meeting of the Friends of the CTBT was held on 27 September 2018 in New York. It was organized by the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, Japan and the Netherlands, in cooperation with the Article XIV Co-Presidents, the Foreign Ministers of Belgium and Iraq. A high number of ministers and other senior officials from States Signatories attended the meeting. A member of the CTBTO Youth Group was invited to address the meeting.

In a joint ministerial statement, the ministers emphasized that the CTBT stands as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and contributes to a world without nuclear weapons. They welcomed ratification of the Treaty by Thailand and signature of the Treaty by Tuvalu and urged all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty, in particular the remaining eight Annex 2 States. Noting that the Treaty is approaching universality, they reaffirmed their resolute determination to pursue the entry into force of the Treaty.

The ministers expressed their commitment to achieving the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and welcomed the Inter-Korean Summits, the summit between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and ongoing diplomatic efforts. They urged the

Democratic People's Republic of Korea to sign and ratify the CTBT as a matter of priority.

They further noted that the conduct of nuclear weapon test explosions is in clear violation of United Nations Security Council resolutions and therefore irresponsible and unacceptable.

The ministers welcomed advances achieved in ensuring the robustness of the verification regime of the Treaty and its scientific and civil applications.

The seventy-third session of the United Nations General Assembly was another occasion for States to renew their commitment to and support for the Treaty. The General Assembly adopted a resolution on the CTBT (A/RES/73/86), with 183 States voting in favour. The resolution urges all States that have not yet signed or ratified the Treaty or that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to accelerate their ratification processes. It welcomes the ratification of the Treaty by Thailand and its signature by Tuvalu, and urges all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means. In addition, the resolution underlines the need to maintain momentum towards the completion of all elements of the verification regime.

## New Ratification and Signature of the Treaty

On 25 September 2018 Thailand deposited its instrument of ratification. Tuvalu signed the Treaty on the same day. As of 31 December 2018, the number of ratifications of the Treaty stands at 167, and the number of signatures is 184. These new developments make the Treaty one of the most adhered to international instruments in the field of disarmament and drive us closer to the desired objective of universality.



The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand at the ratification of the Treaty by Thailand in September 2018.



The Prime Minister of Tuvalu at the signing of the Treaty by Tuvalu in September 2018.