By common consent, the time has come to move from the door being closed to testing nuclear weapons to locking the door so that it can never be re-opened. Because all of us believe that a central component of getting to a world free of nuclear weapons is stopping their testing.

Obviously, a world without a CTBT entering into force is a much poorer world and a much less secure world. Opposing the CTBT because it fails to deliver complete disarmament is tantamount to opposing speed limits on roads because they fail to prevent accidents completely.
It is an honour to introduce the members of the Group of Eminent Persons, GEM, through this booklet. GEM comprises a number of global leaders, senior political figures and high-ranking diplomats from States Signatories. The Group shall support ongoing efforts to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). With their wide-ranging expertise and experience, members of GEM will bring fresh impetus to the ongoing dialogue with the eight countries whose ratification is required for the CTBT’s entry into force, namely: China, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the United States.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), to thank each member for his/her commitment to the noble goals of the Treaty. I am certain that through our collective efforts, we will put an end to nuclear explosions once and for all.

Lassina Zerbo
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, CTBTO
NOBUYASU ABE

Nobuyasu Abe served as the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs from 2003 to 2006. He was the Ambassador of Japan to the International Atomic Energy Agency and other international organizations in Vienna from 1999 to 2001, and Director-General for Arms Control and Science at the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1997 to 1999. He currently holds the position of Director of the Center for the Promotion of Disarmament and Non-Proliferation at the Japan Institute of International Affairs.

»I feel strongly that the time has come to base our peace and security on new thinking. I believe that we should continue moving forward gradually and practically to build a ‘culture of peace’. The CTBT is an important and appropriate step toward this end.«

HANS BLIX

Hans Blix is a diplomat and politician who was the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1978 to 1979. He subsequently served as the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency from 1981 to 1997. From 2000 to 2003, Blix was Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, which investigated Iraq’s compliance with its obligation to be rid of its weapons of mass destruction.

»This is a Treaty that is in operation without being in force. It has not legally entered into force and yet you have an organization that works and that is more accomplished in verification than everything else we have seen.«
PERLA CARVALHO

Perla Carvalho is the Special Adviser for Security, Disarmament and Non Proliferation Issues at the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). Previously she was the Representative of the MFA in the State of Chiapas, Mexico, and Secretary General a.i. of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean. She also served as Ambassador to Uruguay and Diplomatic Adviser of the Presidency of Mexico, amongst other positions. While serving as Alternate Representative at the Conference on Disarmament (1989-1996), Ambassador Carvalho participated in the negotiations for the CTBT.

»The CTBT regime has an extraordinary potential to contribute to enhancing international stability and must be considered not only as an important measure of both horizontal and vertical non-proliferation, but, above all, an essential step towards the total elimination of these terrible weapons whose detonations, even through testing, have catastrophic humanitarian consequences.«

DES BROWNE

Des Browne, Lord Browne of Ladyton, is a British Labour Party politician and a former Member of Parliament. He served as the United Kingdom’s Secretary of State for Defence from 2006 to 2008 and as Secretary of State for Scotland from 2007 to 2008. A member of the House of Lords since 2010, he is now the Convenor of the Top Level Group of UK Parliamentarians for Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation, and the Chair of the Executive Board of the European Leadership Network.

»By common consent, the time has come to move from the door being closed to testing nuclear weapons to locking the door so that it can never be re-opened. Because all of us believe that a central component of getting to a world free of nuclear weapons is stopping their testing.«
JAYANTHA DHANAPALA

Jayantha Dhanapala served as United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs from 1998 to 2003. He served as Ambassador of Sri Lanka to the United States of America from 1995 to 1997 and to the UN Office at Geneva from 1984 to 1987. He is currently the 11th President of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, Deputy Chairman of the Governing Board of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), and a member of several other advisory boards of international bodies.

»Obviously, a world without a CTBT entering into force is a much poorer world and a much less secure world. Opposing the CTBT because it fails to deliver complete disarmament is tantamount to opposing speed limits on roads because they fail to prevent accidents completely.«

CRISTIAN DIACONESCU

Cristian Diaconescu is currently the Chief of Staff and Adviser to the President of Romania, Traian Băsescu. He served as Romania’s Minister of Foreign Affairs in 2012 and from 2008 to 2009. Diaconescu sat in the Romanian Senate from 2004 to 2012, serving as Minister of Justice in 2004. Prior to this he was Secretary of State for Bilateral Affairs at the Foreign Affairs Ministry. He represented Romania as deputy Head of Mission to the UN and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Vienna.

»The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty is an essential pillar of the international security architecture. In the current international environment, its entry into force is more urgent than ever before. From this perspective, bringing the universalization process to successful completion should remain a high priority objective in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.«
SÉRGIO de QUEIROZ DUARTE

Sérgio De Queiroz Duarte was the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs from 2007 to 2012. In 2005, Duarte presided over the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty Review Conference. From 2003 to 2004, he served as Brazil’s Roving Ambassador for Disarmament Affairs. Prior to this, from 1999 to 2002, he was his country’s Permanent Representative to the UN at Vienna and Chairman of the International Atomic Energy Agency Board of Governors. Duarte also served as Ambassador to Nicaragua, Canada and China. Earlier in his career, he was a member of the Brazilian delegations in different UN disarmament fora.

»The CTBT is needed because of the role of nuclear tests in the development and improvement of nuclear weapons. Such tests are also political symbols that have no place in a world determined to eliminate these abhorrent weapons of mass destruction.«

WOLFGANG HOFFMANN

Wolfgang Hoffmann served as the first Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization from March 1997 until August 2005. Prior to this he was the German Ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva from 1993 to 1997, where negotiations for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty took place between 1994 and 1996. A lawyer by profession, Hoffmann entered the German Foreign Service in 1965 where he held different positions, especially in the multilateral field.

»The Treaty system is working. The Treaty has overwhelming political and financial support worldwide. The eight States missing for entry into force have to be looked at one by one. They have different difficulties, some of a more technical and some of a more political nature. We have to convince them.«
JOHN HUTTON

John Matthew Patrick Hutton, Lord Hutton of Furness, is a British Labour Party politician and was a Member of Parliament from 1992 to 2010. He served as the United Kingdom’s Defence Secretary of State from 2008 to 2009 and as Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform from 2007 to 2008. He is currently Chairman of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies and a Member of the House of Lords, where he has served since 2010.

»We need to explore new ways of re-opening the debate about banning the testing of nuclear weapons and to move from a de facto moratorium to a more robust de jure position. It won’t be easy or straightforward but there is no better time than now to make this effort.«

IGOR IVANOV

Igor S. Ivanov is the President of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC) and a Professor at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. Previously, he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation from 1998 to 2004 and Secretary of the Security Council of the Russian Federation from 2004 to 2007. He holds the rank of Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and is a corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

»Our inability to secure the entry into force of the Treaty almost two decades after it was opened for signing is a shame. In order to accelerate the process, we need to work more actively on all the levels of the “security pyramid” – from the UN to the G8 to regional security institutions to bilateral negotiations.«
JOHANNES KYRLE

Johannes Kyrle has served as Secretary-General of Austria’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2002. During this time he has also been a member of the National Security Council, advising the Federal Government on principal matters of foreign, security and defence policy. From 1997 to 2002 he was the Chief of Protocol at the Austrian Foreign Ministry and the Austrian Ambassador to the Principality of Liechtenstein with residence in Vienna from 1991 to 2002.

»The CTBT epitomizes multilateral cooperation by placing the same obligations on its Member States and granting equal rights to all. Much has been achieved in building up the verification regime since the CTBTO was set up in Vienna. By now, the build-up is almost complete and the verification regime is already fully operational.«

HO-JIN LEE

Ho-Jin Lee, formerly a career diplomat of the Republic of Korea (ROK) is currently Principle Vice President of the United Nations Association of the ROK. He specializes in East Asian security, arms control and non-proliferation, and nuclear energy. He was the ROK’s Ambassador to Finland from 2008 to 2010, to Hungary from 2003 to 2006, and Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations from 2001 to 2003. He served as a member of the UN Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters from 2004 to 2008 and as its chairman in 2007.

»I am optimistic given the recent developments when it comes to the Iranian nuclear problems and the Syrian news of chemical weapons and that big powers like Russia and United States are moving forward, for the same development in the process of CTBT.«
FEDERICA MOGHERINI

Federica Mogherini was appointed Foreign Minister of Italy in February 2014. Previously, she served as President of the Italian delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and was a member of the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Defence in the Italian parliament. She was elected to the parliament’s Chamber of Deputies in 2008, where she served as Secretary of the Defence Committee and as a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Mogherini specializes in foreign policy and international security issues.

»I think it is in the interests of the people of those eight countries [who have yet to ratify the CTBT]. And in the end, parliaments and governments normally and rationally take decisions in the interests of their people.«

MARC PERRIN de BRICHAMBAUT

Marc Perrin de Brichambaut has been a State Counsellor in the Litigation Section of the State Council (Conseil d’Etat) in Paris since 2012. He served as Secretary General at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) from 2005 to 2011. Since entering public service in 1974, he has held a variety of senior positions in the French civil service, including Ambassador and Head of the French Delegation to the OSCE from 1991 to 1994.

»Experience teaches us that multilateral instruments are fully effective when they can rely on broad and preferably universal support. When there is no exception or outsider, the objective of the collective endeavour turns into a recognized standard and peer pressure becomes the cement for lasting cohesion and implementation of the commitments. In addressing an ambition as essential as that of banning the testing of nuclear weapons, these lessons hold true and deserve serious attention.«
WILLIAM PERRY

William Perry served as the Secretary of Defense for the United States from 1994 to 1997. Prior to this he was the Deputy Secretary of Defense (1993-1994) and Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (1977-1981). He is currently the Director of the Preventive Defense Project and serves on the Defense Policy Board, the International Security Advisory Board and the Secretary of Energy Advisory Board. Perry is also a Professor at Stanford University, USA, and a Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute and the Hoover Institution.

»U.S. ratification [of the CTBT] has become, in the eyes of many, a litmus test for U.S. leadership in the overall global effort to prevent the use and spread of nuclear weapons.«

KEVIN RUDD

Kevin Rudd is a member of the Australian Parliament. He was Prime Minister of Australia and Leader of the Australian Labor Party (ALP) from June to September 2013 and from December 2007 to June 2010. He was the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs from 2010 to 2012. Previously, in Opposition he was the shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs from 2001 until 2006 when he became the leader of the ALP. Prior to joining Parliament, Rudd was a diplomat, a senior adviser and then an official in the Queensland State Government and a business consultant on China.

»We need to make sure the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty enters into force. And to do that, we need another eight States to ratify. And the job of this group is to do whatever it can, practically, to get those eight States across the line.«
SHA ZUKANG

Sha Zukang served as the United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, from 2007 to 2012. In 2010, he was nominated as the Secretary-General of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. From 2001 to 2007 he served as Permanent Representative of China to the UN Office at Geneva. He established the Department of Arms Control in the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which he headed from 1997 to 2001. As Ambassador of Disarmament Affairs from 1995 to 1997, Sha was China’s chief negotiator of the CTBT.

»Some people see the CTBT’s entry into force clause as a mistake, but I have a different view. Because if any Treaty enters into force without the signature or ratification of those critical States, like the United States, like China, like the other hold-outs, then the Treaty may be in force but not useful.«

HÉCTOR TIMERMAN

Héctor Timerman has been the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina since 2010. Prior to this, he served as the country’s Ambassador to the United States of America from 2007 to 2010. Timerman is co-founder of Americas Watch, the western hemisphere chapter of Human Rights Watch and directed the Buenos Aires office of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights from 2002 to 2004. He also worked as a columnist for The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Newsweek and other international media.

»The entry into force of the CTBT is important for preserving the credibility of the non-proliferation regime, which is already in jeopardy. The impossibility for some States to ratify the CTBT delays its entry into force and reinforces the argument that the non-proliferation regime is implemented with a double standard.«
Ex-officio members

JÁNOS MARTONYI

János Martonyi was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary in 2010, a position which he also held from 1998 to 2002. Between 1994 and 1998, and 2002 to 2009, he was Managing Partner of Martonyi and Kajtár, Baker & McKenzie Law Firm in Hungary. Previous political posts have included Administrative State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 1991 to 1994 and at the Ministry for International Economic Relations from 1990 to 1991. He is a professor of International Trade Law at the University of Szeged.

»The Treaty functions except for one country, but you can never know what some other countries might wish to do in the future, so that’s why we need international law; that’s why we have binding obligations in our world.«

MARTY M. NATALEGAWA

Marty M. Natalegawa was appointed Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia in 2009. From 2007 to 2009 he served as the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the United Nations in New York and as the Ambassador to the United Kingdom from 2005 to 2007. He served consecutively as Chief of Staff of the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs and as the Deputy Minister for the Association of Southeast Nations (ASEAN) Cooperation in the Department of Foreign Affairs from 2002 to 2005.

»This Treaty is one of the main instruments in the promotion of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation and so it is not only right, but it is also a smart thing to do: to create a world that is more peaceful and safer as well.«