

IN MEMORY OF

Boris Kvok

**Director of the
On-Site Inspection
Division**



Mr. Boris Kvok, Director of the On-Site Inspection (OSI) Division of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), passed away unexpectedly on 12 February 2010. His untimely departure is deeply felt in his division, the organization as a whole, and in the international non-proliferation and disarmament community of which Mr. Kvok was an active member.

Mr. Kvok was born in 1954. As a Russian diplomat, he was posted to Pakistan (1978-1983), to Australia (1987-1990), and later to Geneva at the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament (1993-1997). He also carried out the function of Deputy Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the International Organizations in Vienna (2001-2004), before joining the CTBTO as the Director of the On-Site Inspection Division in August 2004.

His background as a diplomat, and in particular his deep expertise in disarmament issues, enabled him quickly to focus on the strategic questions pertaining to the further development of the OSI regime. Under his leadership, one could note a paradigm shift from a technical and scientific perspective to a holistic and strategic approach. He was able to blend the technical elements of the OSI regime with a diplomatic component.

Mr. Kvok worked tirelessly on highlighting the importance of an operationally ready OSI component as a crucial pillar of the verification regime of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. During his time as a Director of the OSI Division, the CTBTO successfully carried out a number of exercises and activities, among them the 2008 Integrated Field Exercise for on-site inspections in Kazakhstan. Mr. Kvok's skillful leadership was crucial in conducting this exercise, which was a milestone in moving forward. His vision was clearly focused on reaching OSI readiness at entry into force of the Treaty – this was his main quest.

Being a highly valued professional and respected boss, Mr. Kvok also never forgot to bring in the personal touch to all his interactions. Boris was a beloved gentleman and a true friend who was highly admired by all in his division and within the entire organization. Boris was an extremely popular colleague, leading his division from a conceptual to a more practical approach. His endeavours and zeal for reaching OSI readiness and thus contributing to nuclear disarmament and eventually to a safer world will not be forgotten, but will serve us as a motivation to continue the work he has done so well.

We are confident that as much as Mr. Kvok is remembered for his important work at the CTBTO, he will also be remembered for the endearing friendship and support that he offered to so many people, inside the profession and far beyond it. Mr. Kvok was simply a wonderful human being, a man who had a deep and open curiosity about everything and everyone he met everywhere in the world.