



AXIVC11

PROMOTING ENTRY INTO FORCE

- Also called the Article XIV conference (AFC), this high-level conference takes place every two years.
- Because of the stringent entry-into-force requirements, the CTBT's Article XIV includes provisions for a conference to accelerate the ratification process if the Treaty has not entered into force three years after opening for signature.
- Special attention is paid to the nine outstanding nuclear holder States – the remaining Annex 2 States – that must ratify before the CTBT can enter into force; China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the United States.
- As the depositary of the Treaty, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon convenes the conference and invites States to participate. Ratifying States are mainly represented by their foreign ministers. Signatory and non-signatory States, intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations can also attend.
- A Final Declaration is adopted by each conference. The 2009 declaration urged the remaining nine States "to take individual initiatives to ratify the Treaty."
- All ratifying States are committed to the Final Declaration. Signatory States that have not yet ratified the CTBT but sign the Final Declaration also subscribe to its content. In 2009, these countries included China, Egypt, Indonesia, Israel, Iran and the United States (which are all Annex 2 States) and Ghana, Guatemala, the Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Yemen.
- This year's conference will take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 23 September.
- It will be presided over by Patricia Espinosa Cantellano, Mexico's Foreign Minister, and Carl Bildt, Sweden's Foreign Minister.

» It is urgent that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty enters into force as early as possible. It is a major element of the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime, and it deserves the active support of all States. The Treaty's verification regime has proven to be a valuable instrument for international cooperation. On this International Day Against Nuclear Tests, I call on all States to take a bold step towards a safer and saner world for all.«

**UN SECRETARY-GENERAL
BAN KI-MOON,
NEW YORK, 29 AUGUST 2011**



INTERVIEW WITH CARL BILD, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF SWEDEN



»A Treaty in force means a safer and more secure world and is a necessary step towards a future without nuclear weapons. For the CTBT to take legal effect, all of the so-called 44 Annex 2 countries must be on board.«

As Co-President of the Article XIV conference, what would you consider to be your main priorities in terms of promoting the CTBT's entry into force?

One priority would be to maintain and reinforce the political relevance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). The CTBT is a cornerstone of, and a catalyst to, further strengthening the international disarmament and non-proliferation regime. It is also a vital contributor for reassurance and confidence-building in a wider regional and international security context. There is an urgent need to put this legal instrument firmly in place so that the door to nuclear testing can be closed once and for all.

As one of the Co-Presidents of the Article XIV conference this year, it is our objective to keep CTBT ratification high on the international agenda, and to increase the number of Treaty ratifications to promote its universalization. A comprehensive ban on nuclear testing concerns everyone.

In your opinion, what will be the most effective way over the next two years to encourage those Annex 2 States that have not yet signed or ratified the CTBT to do so?

All countries should be aware of the need to move forward on the Test Ban and the increased security for all that a CTBT in place would bring about. CTBT ratification should not be seen as a "zero sum game". The more States that ratify, the more all countries gain in terms of common security. And once the Treaty takes legal effect, there will be a qualitative leap in terms of increased security for all.

However, it is important to underline that an individual State has everything to gain from ratifying the CTBT, regardless of whether other pending States move forward with ratification or not. To sign and ratify the CTBT is a key contribution to confidence-building and a clear-cut commitment to international norms.

What message would you like to send to the nine remaining Annex 2 States?

That a Treaty in force means a safer and more secure world and is a necessary step towards a future without nuclear weapons. For the CTBT to take legal effect, all of the so-called 44 Annex 2 countries must be on board. We need to work together to make sure that the missing ratifications are added and that the CTBT enters into force.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

CARL BILD

was appointed the Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs in 2006. Between 1991 and 1994 he served as Sweden's Prime Minister and was leader of the centre-right Moderate Party from 1986 to 1999. He has also been noted internationally as a mediator in the Balkan conflict, serving as the European Union's Special Representative for the Former Yugoslavia from 1995 to 1997, as High Representative of the international community in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1996 to 1997, and as the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Balkans from 1999 to 2001.

INTERVIEW WITH PATRICIA ESPINOSA CANTELLANO, SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MEXICO



»The international community must undertake a greater commitment to convince Annex 2 States that have not signed or ratified the Treaty to do so as soon as possible.«

As Co-President of the Article XIV conference, what would you consider to be your main priorities in terms of promoting the CTBT's entry into force?

Highlight the lack of justification for the existence of nuclear weapons; if most of the nuclear-weapon States have stated that they will not be the first to use those weapons, then the question to be asked is, what is the purpose of their existence? If such weapons have no logical reason to exist, further research for their development and enhancement is unnecessary.

I would also like to emphasize that the CTBT is intended to prohibit the execution of actual nuclear tests, which is the most practical step towards achieving general nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. With a realistic approach, the Treaty can be ratified by those outstanding Annex 2 States without objection since it does not require them to eliminate their existing nuclear arsenals. Our long-term goal is their complete elimination, but the

CTBT framework is one of the main and necessary steps along this road.

Mexico firmly believes that it is possible to achieve general and complete disarmament, and that weapons should be replaced by dialogue and cooperation to ensure peace and security. The existence of nuclear weapons and their use as a bargaining tool only reiterates the hypocrisy of those who possess them and their lack of willingness to assume the greatest challenge of humanity: to make the world a safe and dignified place to live.

In your opinion, what will be the most effective way over the next two years to encourage those Annex 2 States that have not yet signed or ratified the CTBT to do so?

The international community must undertake a greater commitment to convince Annex 2 States that have not signed or ratified the Treaty to do so as soon as possible. There are appropriate international fora to advance this objective

and there are reasons for reaching it. The greater involvement of civil society should also be encouraged to strengthen the lobbying for the ratification and entry into force of the Treaty, mainly on the grounds of the illegitimacy of the use or threat to use nuclear weapons. It should also be made clear that the arguments put forward for not ratifying the Treaty, as well as the possession and use of nuclear weapons (based on military concerns and false dilemmas) ignore tangible actions towards a durable peace and a secure world.

Also, all Member States have to take a more active role with the Annex 2 countries to establish strategies for the early entry into force of the CTBT.

What message would you like to send to the nine remaining States?

It is necessary that they assume, with real political will, their responsibility before the international community to strengthen international peace and security. It is inconsistent that they refer to peace and security, when most of the world's population fears the use or the threat to use nuclear weapons. It is also unacceptable to know that, while an important part of the world's population lives in poverty because of lack of development opportunities and education, there are large amounts of resources allocated to develop, manufacture, maintain, deploy and improve nuclear weapons and capabilities.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

PATRICIA ESPINOSA CANTELLANO

is a career diplomat who was appointed Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Mexico in 2006. From 2002 to 2006 she served as Mexico's Ambassador to Austria and Permanent Representative to the International Organizations in Vienna and from 2001 to 2002 as Mexico's Ambassador to Germany. In 2005, while in Vienna, Ms. Espinosa served as Chair of the CTBTO's subsidiary body that deals with budgetary and administrative matters.