



INDONESIA

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»If the remaining Annex 2 States are committed to building a safe world for the next generation, ratification by any one of them will move the Treaty one step closer to entry into force.«

In your capacity 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?

It is clear that nuclear disarmament is one of the most urgent global challenges. In this regard, one of my priorities in my capacity as Co-President of the eighth Article XIV conference will be to ensure that CTBT ratification remains a prominent issue on the international agenda. I will work closely with my counterpart from Hungary to make this a reality by promoting and coordinating

outreach activities for the Treaty at the highest possible level, at international forums, regional conferences and bilateral meetings, and I will invite other like-minded States to do the same. Further collaboration with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to raise awareness of and strengthen support for the Treaty and its objectives is also one of the priorities.

At the Article XIV conference, we will need to determine additional concrete measures to accelerate the Treaty's entry into force and promote

its universalization process. These measures will include further encouraging the remaining Annex 2 States – China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the United States – to sign and ratify the Treaty, as shown by Indonesia's ratification in 2012. They need to demonstrate leadership by taking the initiative rather than waiting for others to act first. Ratification by all of the Annex 2 States will enable the Treaty to enter into force, which will create tremendous momentum for the achievement of our shared vision of a nuclear-weapon-free world.

To promote the CTBT, we should also promote closer cooperation between the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO and nuclear-weapon-free zones, as they have complementary objectives.

When Indonesia completed its ratification process of the CTBT on 6 February 2012, it was a highly symbolic move. It moved the Treaty one step closer to universalization by reducing the number of countries to eight that must ratify the Treaty before it can enter into force. Over the next two years, how will you encourage the remaining Annex 2 States to sign and/or ratify the CTBT?

I will encourage them to follow Indonesia's example and ratify the CTBT. Such a move will strengthen their position and influence as countries that support nuclear disarmament and it would help achieve a more secure global environment. We are extremely concerned that although the Cold War ended over two decades ago, the world is still far from becoming a safer place as nuclear weapon States retain their nuclear arms. We are deeply concerned that certain countries such as the DPRK have conducted nuclear weapon test explosions, exacerbating tensions in the region. Such nuclear tests highlight the urgent need for the CTBT's entry into force.

If the remaining Annex 2 States are committed to building a safe world for the next generation, ratification by any one of them will move the Treaty one step closer to entry into force. This will immediately boost efforts by the international community to prevent States from acquiring, developing and proliferating nuclear weapons. The cessation of nuclear weapons testing will be a milestone to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Several of the remaining Annex 2 States, such as China, the DPRK, India and Pakistan, are in Asia. Why is it important for these countries to sign and/or ratify the CTBT and what leadership role can they play in this regard?

Their ratification would not only reduce regional tensions and bolster security in the region, but would also strengthen the global ban against nuclear testing, thus enhancing their leadership role both at the regional and international levels in the area of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

In Southeast Asia, Thailand and Myanmar signed the CTBT on 12 November 1996 and 25 November 1996 respectively but they have not yet ratified. In your opinion, what is the most effective way to convince them that ratification is in their interests?

It would be natural for both Thailand and Myanmar to ratify the CTBT since they recognize that the way to achieve lasting international peace and security

is to support nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. These are central themes to the security of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Brunei Darussalam ratified the CTBT on 10 January 2013, meaning that Thailand and Myanmar are the only ASEAN countries that have not yet done so. Since the 10 Member States of ASEAN also form the Southeast Asia Nuclear-Weapons-Free Zone (SEANWFZ), we fully believe that CTBT ratification by Thailand and Myanmar would reinforce the goals of the SEANWFZ or Bangkok Treaty.

I note that for Thailand, the issue is not about the lack of political will. Rather, in accordance with its legal system, Thailand should ensure that the necessary implementation legislation is in place before ratifying the Treaty. I have confidence that similar progress would be made in Myanmar's ratification of the CTBT in the near future. For these reasons, we should work with all ASEAN countries to encourage the implementation and universalization of the CTBT in the region.

In addition to strengthening the non-proliferation and disarmament regime, countries reap a multitude of other membership benefits by adhering to the CTBT. These include access to verification data, which also offer a range of civil and scientific applications, and the possibility of participating in capacity building activities. How can countries that have not signed the Treaty yet be best made aware of the advantages of joining the 183 countries that are already enjoying these benefits?

Non-signatories could be targeted through outreach activities that highlight the membership benefits, especially in terms of disaster mitigation, such as the use of CTBT monitoring data for tsunami early warning purposes or for tracking radioactivity in the case of a nuclear accident.

My own country suffered greatly from the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, as

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did a number of other countries including India – one of the non-signatory States. Since that catastrophe, the CTBTO has been sharing monitoring data with tsunami warning centres in Indonesia and with several other countries in different regions of the world. The data increase their ability to issue more rapid warnings. India and other countries that have not yet signed the Treaty could receive benefits by becoming signatories and entering into a tsunami warning agreement with the CTBTO.

I will urge CTBTO Member States to take advantage of relevant regional conferences to inform non-signatories that by joining the CTBT, their nationals will also be able to participate in workshops, seminars and training activities where they can learn about the potential civil and scientific uses of verification data and technologies.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

MARTY M. NATALEGAWA

was appointed Foreign Minister of the Republic of Indonesia in 2009. He played a key role in Indonesia's ratification of the CTBT in 2012. Prior to this, he served as the Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the UN in New York from 2007 to 2009 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 ASEAN Cooperation from 2002 to 2005.