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THE 2013 CONFERENCE ON FACILITATING
THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CTBT
27 SEPTEMBER 2013, UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

WHAT IS THE ARTICLE XIV CONFERENCE?

- Because of the stringent entry-into-force requirements of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), Article XIV includes provisions for a conference to accelerate the ratification process.
- This ministerial-level conference, also called the Article XIV conference, takes place every two years.
- Special attention is paid to the States defined as nuclear technology capable by the Treaty, known as the Annex 2 States. Eight of these have yet to ratify before the CTBT can enter into force: China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the United States.
- As the depositary of the Treaty, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon convenes the conference and invites all stakeholders interested in banning nuclear tests to participate. The majority of States are represented by their foreign ministers. Signatory and non-signatory States, intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations may also attend.
- This year's conference will take place at the UN headquarters in New York on 27 September. It will be presided over by János Martonyi, Foreign Minister of Hungary, and Marty Natalegawa, Foreign Minister of Indonesia.

GROUP OF EMINENT PERSONS (GEM)

The CTBT's entry into force is of vital importance for the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime. As of 3 September 2013, the CTBT was approaching universalization with 183 signatures and 159 ratifications. However, 17 years after the Treaty opened for signature it has still not entered into force.

To ensure an innovative and focused approach to advance the CTBT's ratification by the remaining Annex 2 States, a group comprising eminent personalities and internationally recognized experts has been established. Through their experience and political standing, this Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) will support and complement efforts to promote the Treaty's entry into force as well as reinvigorating international endeavours to achieve this goal. The Presidents of the Article XIV conference, the Foreign Ministers of Hungary and Indonesia, who are featured in interviews on pages 8 to 10, will also be members of the GEM.

Please refer to the separate booklet inside the back cover for an introduction to members of GEM.