

Group of Eminent Persons (GEM)

A declaration by the GEM issued on 11 April 2014 at the end of its second meeting in Stockholm, Sweden

1. At the invitation of Carl Bildt, Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) met in Stockholm on 10–11 April 2014. The GEM wishes to thank its hosts for the generous support provided for the meeting.

2. The following members of the Group¹ were in attendance: Nobuyasu Abe, Vice Chairman, Japan Atomic Energy Commission; Hans Blix, former Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency; Des Browne, Chair of the Executive Board, European Leadership Network, Vice-Chair, Nuclear Threat Initiative, and former UK Secretary of State for Defence; Sérgio de Queiroz Duarte, former UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs; Cristian Diaconescu, Chief of Staff and Adviser to the President of Romania; Wolfgang Hoffmann, Executive Secretary Emeritus of the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO; John Hutton, Chairman of the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies and former UK Secretary of State for Defence; Johannes Kyrle, former Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Austria; Ho-jin Lee, Principal Vice-President of the United Nations Association of the Republic of Korea; Federica Mogherini, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy; Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, former Secretary General of the OSCE; William Perry, Director of the Preventive Defense Project, Center for International Security and Cooperation, and former United States Secretary of Defense; Kevin Rudd, Senior Fellow, Harvard University, and former Prime Minister of Australia; Lassina Zerbo, Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO. Hungary and Indonesia were also represented at the workshop as ex-officio members of the GEM. Balazs Gabor Csuday, Permanent Representative of Hungary to the UN in Vienna, and Rachmat Budiman, Permanent Representative of Indonesia to the UN in Vienna, represented János Martonyi, Foreign Minister of Hungary, and Marty Natalegawa, Foreign Minister of Indonesia, who are ex-officio members of the GEM.

3. Through a series of discussions, while acknowledging the primary role of the Article XIV process, the Group reflected on how it could best advise and assist the Executive Secretary on securing the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). Broader strategic approaches and modes of action were considered, in addition to focused discussions on the eight remaining Annex 2 States yet to ratify the Treaty.

4. The GEM discussed thoroughly the need for entry into force of the CTBT in order to complete a global, legally-binding

prohibition on nuclear weapon test explosions or other nuclear explosions. The Group also noted that entry into force and universalization of the CTBT would strengthen international disarmament efforts and the nuclear non-proliferation regime. In this regard, the Group stressed that the CTBT should also be approached in terms of its close links with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and with the concept of nuclear security.

5. While confident that entry into force of the CTBT is within reach, the GEM acknowledged the significant challenges that exist in pursuit of this goal. These include galvanizing and maintaining political momentum, and continuing to secure adequate technical and financial support for the CTBT verification regime.

6. The GEM therefore resolved to support entry into force and universalization of the CTBT through multilayered engagement at the national, regional and global levels, including:

- Direct engagement with policymakers;
- Active participation in significant public events at which the CTBT can be raised;
- Promotion of the Treaty through media outreach; and
- Utilization of networks and force multipliers, including political, civil society, and academic links, to broaden and diversify support for the Treaty.

7. The GEM accepted the kind invitation of Federica Mogherini, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy, and member of the GEM, to meet in Italy.

8. The GEM acknowledged the kind invitation of János Martonyi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Hungary, ex-officio member of the Group and Co-President of the Process to Facilitate the Entry into force of the CTBT, to hold its next meeting in Hungary in the autumn of 2014.

[1] The other members of the Group who were not present at the meeting in Stockholm are: Perla Carvalho, Special Adviser for Security, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues, Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Jayantha Dhanapala, President of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs and Deputy Chairman of the Governing Board of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute; Igor S. Ivanov, President of the Russian International Affairs Council and Professor at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations; Sha Zukang former United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Department of Economic and Social Affairs; and, Héctor Timerman, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Argentina.



It was the GEM's first meeting since its launch in New York in September 2013.

»We lived through one very dangerous nuclear arms race during the Cold War. We were lucky that that arms race did not result in nuclear catastrophe. We may not be so lucky a second time.«

*WILLIAM PERRY
FORMER U.S. SECRETARY
OF DEFENSE*

»The inauguration of the GEM last September has reaffirmed my belief that the eminent personalities who have become part of this Group possess the insight and experience to finally break the political stalemate that has engulfed the CTBT in recent years.«

*LASSINA ZERBO
CTBTO EXECUTIVE SECRETARY*

»The positive developments of the Iran nuclear negotiations can help the cause of the CTBT.«

*CARL BILD
SWEDISH FOREIGN
MINISTER*



Federica Mogherini, Italian Foreign Minister (left) and Carl Bildt, Swedish Foreign Minister, during the meeting of the GEM in Stockholm, Sweden, from 10 to 11 April 2014. The meeting was hosted by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

BACKGROUND GROUP OF EMINENT PERSONS

On 26 September 2013 a group comprising distinguished personalities and internationally recognized experts was launched at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. This Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) will support and complement efforts to promote the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) as well as reinvigorating international endeavours to achieve this goal.