1. Following the detection of an unusual seismic event by the verification regime of the Treaty on 6 January 2016 and the subsequent announcement by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea that it had conducted a nuclear test, the Preparatory Commission met on 7 January 2016 at the Vienna International Centre to receive further information from the Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) in connection with the event and to discuss the announced nuclear test.

2. The session was chaired by HE Ambassador Cristian Istrate, Permanent Representative of Romania.

3. Mr Bozorgmehr Ziaran of the PTS served as Secretary of the Commission.

4. The Executive Secretary made some introductory remarks detailing the performance of the verification regime in response to the unusual seismic event. He also underlined the urgency of the entry into force of the Treaty in the light of the risks posed to international peace and security.

5. The PTS presented an updated briefing on the event of 6 January that will be posted on the Experts Communication System (ECS).

6. The Commission thanked the PTS for its timely response and technical briefing on 6 January and the updates presented on 7 January. It also expressed its satisfaction at the performance of the verification regime of the Treaty.

7. Delegations made statements stating their national positions regarding the announced nuclear test, expressing universal concern about the effect of any such test on international peace and security and rejecting any and all nuclear explosive tests.

8. The Commission stressed the importance of the early entry into force of the Treaty.
9. The Chairperson of the Commission informed the meeting that he intends to issue a statement on this event.

10. The Commission requested the PTS to continue briefing States Signatories.