

Latvia's Statement on the CTBT

Seventh Ministerial Meeting of the CTBT

26 September, 2014

New York

Mr Chairman,

1. The CTBT is an indispensable tool in our efforts to stop the spread of nuclear weapons.
2. Latvia strongly believes that the early entry into force of this Treaty is of utmost urgency and importance both as a political imperative and a concrete contribution to further strengthening international peace and security.
3. Pending the entry into force of the CTBT, Latvia welcomes the moratorium on nuclear test explosions, declared also by states which have not yet ratified the Treaty.
4. However, such voluntary moratorium cannot substitute the legal ban of nuclear tests, as they can be unilaterally revoked at any time.
5. We value the continuous perfection of the CTBT's verification regime. We remain confident of the verification regime's future ability to provide the international community with reliable means of verifying and deterring any violation of the Treaty's provisions.

Thank you.