REPORT OF THE FORTY-SIXTH SESSION
OF THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION

ADDENDUM

1. Following the detection of an unusual seismic event by the verification regime of the Treaty on 9 September 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 the same day at the Vienna International Centre to receive 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 Ziaaran of the PTS served as Secretary of the Commission.

4. The Executive Secretary, Mr Lassina Zerbo, made some introductory remarks on the performance of the verification regime in response to the announced test. He underlined the urgency of the entry into force of the Treaty 20 years after its conclusion and highlighted the serious risks posed to international peace and security as a result of further delays. He also stressed the importance of testing and validation of the components of the verification regime.

5. The PTS presented a technical briefing on the event and responded to the questions raised by delegations.

6. The Commission thanked the PTS for its timely response to the event and its technical briefing. It also expressed its satisfaction with the performance of the verification regime of the Treaty.
7. Delegations made statements presenting their national positions, with many condemning the announced nuclear test and expressing grave concern over the serious negative effect of any such test on international peace and security and rejecting any and all nuclear explosive tests. They also called on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to refrain from any further nuclear tests.

8. The Commission re-emphasized the importance and urgency of the 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.