



Statement

By

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Before

The

**Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force
of the Comprehensive Nuclear –Test-Ban Treaty**

New York, 24-25 September 2009

**Permanent Mission of the State of Qatar to the United Nations – New York
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**Excellencies co-chairs of the Conference,
Excellencies the Ministers,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
distinguished members of the Conference,**

I am pleased to be here today, representing the State of Qatar in this historic Conference on Article XIV of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, which is being held at the invitation of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Excellencies co-chairs,

A few days ago, we have concluded the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is not only located in the vicinity of and shares offices with the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization; both of them represent a great multilateral system aimed at preventing proliferation and achieving nuclear disarmament. The same situation has occurred in 2005, as the Conference of Treaty on the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty was held a few weeks after the Review Conference on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. This confirms the common track of both treaties and their objectives.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today we are nearly approaching the universality of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty; the Treaty has been signed by 181 countries and ratified by 149 countries. In spite of the many challenges,

this is a remarkable achievement occurred over the last decade, especially taking into account that the number of countries which ratified the treaty 10 years ago was only 50. As of now, out the forty-four countries endowed with technical capabilities and whose ratification is required for the treaty to enter into force, 9 countries have not ratified the treaty. This makes us optimistic about the fact that the prospects for the entry into force of the treaty is much more positive than it was years ago. Now the remaining question is not "if", but rather "When?". The situation requires will and action by the international community to cross this last mile.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a country enjoying stability, peace and good neighborly relations with its neighboring countries, and whose people enjoy prosperity, Qatar yearns for a world where love between human beings prevails and where peace and tranquility are the norms. Accordingly, Qatar believes that rather than being squandered on weapons that entail the extermination of the human race, the natural use of these nuclear materials should be for peaceful reactors to generate electricity for illuminating the minds and hearts before the households, push production forward and desalinate water devoted to quenching the thirst of humans, animals and plants.

Excellencies co-chairs,

Stemming from its belief in this, the State of Qatar has supported the CTBT since the first moment, and hastened to accede to it, as it did with other treaties on the prohibition of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, In the State of Qatar, announce our full support for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty and its efficient verification system, which, over the past three years, has proved its success, effectiveness and credibility in the monitoring of nuclear tests. Likewise, we eagerly look forward to the day when the Treaty enters into force. In this regard, the State of Qatar does not spare any efforts in order to convince the countries that have not signed or ratified the Treaty to accelerate their accession to it. This advocacy efforts is made by means of bilateral or regional contacts, or international meetings. On this occasion, from this podium, we call upon and urge the countries that did not accede to it, to accelerate its full accession, and we urge the remaining 9 member countries of the group of 44 to expedite it.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The State of Qatar is in the process of establishing the National Information Center. It also endeavors to take advantage of the information system of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty Organization, with the view to exchanging information and achieving mutual benefits.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, I wish this conference every success, and that it will fulfill the hopes placed in it. Let us hope that this conference is the beginning of the last mile towards the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban treaty, and that we will witness this in the near future for the good of human beings whom God has honored in all religions.

Thank you.