

**Statement by H.E. Mr Pekka Haavisto
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland**

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

New York, 23 September 2021

Distinguished Co-Presidents,
Excellencies,
Esteemed participants,

In addition to the EU statement, I would like to add a few remarks in my national capacity, as a longstanding member of the group “Friends of the CTBT”.

I would like to offer my warmest wishes to Dr. Robert Floyd for his appointment as the Executive Secretary of the CTBTO. I look forward to working with you in upholding the norm against nuclear testing and securing the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty.

The CTBT has been open for signatures for a quarter of a century and it is now time for this process to be completed. Ratification by the Annex 2 States remains the key to the CTBT’s entry into force and I call on the remaining eight states to sign and ratify the Treaty without further delay.

Universalisation amongst non-Annex States is equally important for strengthening the norm against nuclear testing. We welcome the latest ratifications by Cuba and the Union of Comoros. Pending entry into force of the CTBT, maintaining moratoria on nuclear testing remains crucial.



Our common goal is a world free of nuclear weapons. Concrete actions towards this end must be taken in the NPT Review Conference. The significance of the CTBT must be recognized in the deliberations of the Review Conference.

The CTBT has a uniquely strong verification regime. The International Monitoring System provides independent and reliable information ensuring compliance with the Treaty. This is a great achievement of the CTBTO. The long-term sustainability of the network must be guaranteed. Finland as the host one of the IMS's primary seismic stations will continue its support to the network also in the future.

Distinguished Co-Presidents,

Finland is a strong advocate of the Treaty. The CTBT is a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and Finland will continue working towards its swift entry into force.

Thank you!

