



DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA TO THE OSCE
Statement by Ambassador Kire Ilioski
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Macedonia to the OSCE, UN and other International
Organizations in Vienna
CTBT, Ministerial Meeting
June 13, Vienna

Mr. Secretary General,
Distinguished Executive Secretary,
EU High Representative,
Ministers, Chairs,
Dear Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Republic of Macedonia fully aligned with the Statement made by the European Union High Representative Mogherini. Allow me to add a few remarks in my national capacity. Let me begin by assuring you of the full support and cooperation of the Republic of Macedonia to full implementation of the Treaty. We express our appreciation to the Executive Secretary and Chairs for the dedicated work in preparing this meeting. Let me congratulate the CTBTO for their tremendous efforts and commitments and two decades service in detecting possible nuclear tests.

We also welcome the work of the Preparatory Commission's Working Group A and B, as well as of the Advisory Group. We welcome the productive participation of high level dignitaries, including the UN Secretary General, EU High Representative, ministers and ambassadors, which indicates the importance of the Treaty and its implementation for all of us. We fully associate with the view of H.E. Ban Ki-moon that this anniversary is not a celebration but a reminder of work remaining – it is a call to action.

This 20th anniversary provides us with the opportunity to be proud of the significant Achievements of this Treaty. We want to encourage all states to continue promoting nuclear disarmament as a primary goal and to contribute to the general and complete disarmament and to the strengthening confidence among nations. In this regard I want to emphasize the importance and necessity of further development of the verification regime. We strongly condemn all nuclear tests and believe that they highlight the urgent need for the early entry into force of the Treaty.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

More than a decade ago, on March 14, 2000, Republic of Macedonia ratified the CTBTO. We perceive this Treaty, together with the Treaty on the Non-proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, as crucial pillars of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, which would contribute vastly to the prevention of nuclear weapon renaissance, which may result in repeating nuclear arms races. Let me, therefore, once again reaffirm our full support to the pledge moratorium on nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of the Treaty.

In conclusion, I want to assure you that my country remains committed to full implementation of the treaty obligations and its universal adherence.

Thank you very much