



## **Statement**

**by H.E. Ambassador Doru Costea,  
State Secretary for Global Affairs,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania**

**Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force  
of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,  
New York, September 23, 2011**

Mr. Secretary General,  
Honourable Ministers,  
Ambassadors,  
Distinguished guests,

At the outset, I would like to state that Romania fully shares the views expressed by the distinguished representative of the European Union. I would like, nevertheless, to make some brief remarks in national capacity.

As we have already expressed before, in various occasions and fora, Romania is of the firm belief that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty constitutes an essential pillar of the international security architecture.

Let me take this opportunity to commend the achievements of the 2010 Review Conference of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) with regard to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). In our view, the endorsement of early entry into force of the CTBT as one of the 64 practical steps agreed upon in the NPT Plan of Action brought thus a new impetus for achieving this specific objective and nuclear disarmament in general.

We sincerely hope that the present event will send another strong message to all states which have not signed and/or ratified it yet to join the majority that has done so, thus contributing to the enhancement of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regimes.

As for our part, Romania supports the early entry into force of Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, as an important step in achieving nuclear disarmament. We have always been and we remain strongly committed to the CTBT objectives. From this perspective, we are satisfied to see that the CTBT has achieved near universal adherence with signature by 182 states and ratification by 154 states as of today.

We are deeply convinced that the Treaty's entry into force would be a major step for building a safer and more peaceful world, and thus it should constitute a high priority objective in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

In our view, an effectively verifiable ban on nuclear tests is an essential component of regional and international peace and security and a decisive step towards the elimination of nuclear weapons. Therefore, Romania signed and ratified the Treaty at

an early stage, in 1999. On the other hand, Romania constantly supports the efforts of the CTBTO PrepCom in Vienna to implement the Treaty's verification mechanism.

As you may recall, Romania participates with the seismic station Cheia-Muntele Rosu (AS081) in the auxiliary seismic monitoring network of the International Monitoring System. This seismic station is fully operational and was certified as auxiliary station by the Provisional Technical Secretariat in June 2003. Moreover, the "Facility Agreement" with the Provisional Technical Secretariat of CTBTO was signed also in June 2003, being now in force.

In the same line, Romania continued to place a high priority on the establishment of the Treaty verification regime and improving the activity of the National Data Centers (NDCs). In this respect, Romanian Government together with the Provisional Technical Secretariat are organizing *the 2011 NDC Evaluation Workshop* in Bucharest, from 3 to 7 October 2011. The objectives of the Workshop are to provide a forum for NDC experts to share experience in fulfilling their verification responsibilities and to provide NDC feedback to the PTS on all aspects of the data, products, services and support NDCs in their work.

As for the future, I take this opportunity to reaffirm our well-known commitment for the early entry into force of CTBT and for its provisions, and moreover to emphasize our determination to work in partnership with the international community towards facilitating that important goal, including by granting support for the activities of the Preparatory Commission and the Provisional Technical Secretariat.

Let me conclude my comments by expressing once again the hope that this Meeting would create a positive momentum for achieving our common goal – bringing into force the CTBT at an early stage, and thus contributing to build a nuclear-weapon-free world.

Thank you.