



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THAILAND
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Statement

by

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

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Building Bridges for Partnership

THAILAND

ASEAN Candidate for the UN Security Council 2017 – 2018

Mr. Co-Presidents,

On behalf of the Delegation of Thailand, I join in adding our congratulations on your nomination as Co-Presidents of this Conference today.

As a signatory state, Thailand continues to make serious efforts to expedite ratification of the CTBT. We reiterate our recognition of the Treaty as an important pillar of the international non-proliferation and disarmament regime. These commitments are, therefore, ones that we take seriously and have continued to emphasise in a number of avenues.

To this end, I am pleased to be able to inform that, on 4 August of this year, our Cabinet gave in-principle approval of the Draft *Nuclear Energy Act*. This new legislation will, amongst other issues, incorporate provisions on nuclear testing pursuant to the Treaty obligations, as well as criminalise nuclear testing activities. The Draft is now under some specific drafting amendment procedures as instructed by Cabinet, before being submitted to the National Legislative Assembly for consideration. After that it will finally be enacted as law upon receiving Royal consent. We do not expect these upcoming steps to involve a lengthy process.

In either case, Thailand has enjoyed close cooperation with the CTBTO Preparatory Commission. We appreciate highly its verification and monitoring work, particularly under the International Monitoring System, along with opportunities for capacity-building and support for our relevant technical agencies and personnel. As a facility host under the IMS, we look forward to expanding our cooperation in the near future.

Mr. Co-Presidents,

Many delegations have pointed out that this year marks the 70th anniversary of the atomic bomb, and next year marks the 20th anniversary of the opening of the CTBT for signature. Thailand echoes the many calls for the universalisation of the Treaty.

In our view, it is important for Annex 2 states to ratify the Treaty to enable the CTBT to enter into force. But it is also equally important that eventual ratification by *all* states, will be the most significant element in furthering the

standing of the CTBT as a key instrument for the international community to ensure peace, security and a safer world for future generations. Thailand will continue to do our part towards that aim. In this regard, we are very pleased that the issue of the humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons has been incorporated in the Final Declaration.

Thank you, Mr. Co-Presidents.
