Statement of Serbia and Montenegro delivered by
Dr Branislav Milinković, Ambassador, at the Conference
on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive
Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, 4 September 2003

Mr. President,

It is my great honor to address the distinguished participants at the
Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-
Test - Ban Treaty on behalf of Serbia and Montenegro. I would also like to extend
my sincere congratulations to You Mr. President and to our Host Country. Our
special appreciation goes to the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory
Commission Mr. Wolfgang Hoffmann for his efficient and dedicated work.

Mr. President,
The challenges to the international security are global, comprehensive and
multi-faceted. There is no doubt that the presence of the great quantity of nuclear
weapons put in question the security on global scale. Therefore, the forces
oriented towards international peace and security must jointly respond to these
challenges. The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty is a valuable
instrument in these efforts, and is one of the key prerequisites of nuclear
disarmament.

Serbia and Montenegro, as a country that does not have nuclear
weapons, has recognized its place among the states that may contribute to the
control of nuclear arms. As a country with an important geo-strategic position,
Serbia and Montenegro sees its role in preventing the proliferation of weapons
for mass destruction as well as nuclear weapons. As a result, we have signed
CTBT in 2001, immediately after the democratic changes in the country.

Mr. President,
It is my pleasure to inform you that the Council of Ministers of Serbia and
Montenegro should forward soon the draft Law on ratification of the
Comprehensive Nuclear - Test - Ban Treaty to the Parliament of Serbia and
Montenegro for its adoption. I want to stress that the procedure of the ratification
of this Treaty was slightly slowed down because of the restructuring of the
constitutional arrangement in my country. Our ratification of CTBT will reconfirm
our determination to help in ensuring international peace and security.

I would like to express our high appreciation for Commission's work in
establishing the global verification regime and to acknowledge useful role that it
could play for civil and scientific purposes as well.

In conclusion, I would like to re-emphasize Serbia and Montenegro's full
commitment to the entering into force of the CTBT and to its becoming universal
in character, to the benefit of strengthening international peace and security
through cooperation on disarmament. We are confident that this Conference will
help in achieving this goal.

Thank You, Mr. President