



*The Permanent Mission of Portugal
to the United Nations*



PORTUGAL
United Nations Security Council
2027/2028

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**14th Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the
Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)
(Article XIV Conference)**

New York, 26 September 2025
(United Nations headquarters, Conference Room 4, 10 a.m.)

Statement by Portugal

Delivered by the Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations,
Mr. Jorge Aranda

Distinguished Co-Presidents,

Excellencies,

Portugal aligns with the statement of the European Union and wishes to make a few remarks in its national capacity.

We thank the Secretary-General for convening this conference, and also express our gratitude to Norway and Panama for all of their work in the past two years as Co-Presidents.

Portugal further congratulates Sweden and the Philippines on assuming the Co-Presidency and wishes them all the best in their future work.

Excellencies,

This year we celebrate two important anniversaries.

While 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the foundation of the UN – a triumph in multilateralism –, it also marks the 80th anniversary of the first nuclear test.

Since then, over 2.000 nuclear tests have been conducted.

Their impact has been significant. Environmental degradation, soils and oceans contaminated, and severe health conditions that today still affect populations, especially in Central Asia and the Pacific.



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In this anniversary year, there is, however, reason for hope. If no nuclear tests are conducted until January, humanity will have lived the longest period without nuclear testing since testing started in 1945.

Excellencies,

If we are able to make progress on the ground, we can surely make progress in the diplomatic front.

With Papua New Guinea's most recent ratification, the CTBT is almost nearly universal, counting already with 178 States-Parties.

Portugal is particularly glad that all countries in the Lusophone world have ratified this treaty. Indeed, 3 of the last 10 ratifications come from countries belonging to the Community of Portuguese-speaking countries.

It is now essential that the CTBT enters into force. We therefore urge Annex 2 countries to adhere to this instrument.

The entry into force of this treaty could revive multilateral disarmament efforts and build the necessary global trust to advance on the implementation of the NPT.

Excellencies,

While the Treaty does not enter into force, we appreciate the great work being carried out by CTBTO and by its Executive Secretary, Robert Floyd.

In particular, the use of the data from the International Monitoring System for civilian and scientific uses is of particular interest and importance.

Portugal – a country with some vulnerability to potential earthquakes and tsunamis – is especially glad to host 3 IMS stations in the Azores archipelago.

Our National Authority on the Prohibition of Nuclear Tests and our universities will continue to explore the potential of this data and, in this context, to cooperate on concrete and innovative projects with third countries, especially within the Community of Portuguese-speaking countries.

I thank you.

[412 words]