

Vienna, 3-5 September 2003

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, convened pursuant to Article XIV of the Treaty, was opened on 3 September 2003 by Antonio Maria Costa, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, who delivered a statement on behalf of the Secretary-General on that occasion.
2. The following 102 States that had already deposited their instruments of ratification of the Treaty before the opening of the Conference and States Signatories that had not yet deposited their instruments of ratification before the opening of the Conference participated in the Conference: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.
3. In conformity with rule 40 of the rules of procedure, the following other States attended the Conference: Afghanistan, Cuba, Pakistan, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saudi Arabia.
4. In accordance with rule 41 of the rules of procedure, the following specialized agencies, related organizations and intergovernmental organizations attended the Conference: African Union, European Commission, International Atomic Energy Agency, League of Arab States, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and World Meteorological Organization.
5. In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, 19 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) attended the Conference (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/INF.2).
6. A list of the delegations to the Conference, including participating States, other States, specialized agencies, related organizations, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs, is contained in document CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/INF.3.

ORGANIZATIONAL AND PROCEDURAL DECISIONS

7. At its first plenary meeting, on 3 September 2003, the Conference elected, by acclamation, as President of the Conference, His Excellency Erkki Tuomioja, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland. On that occasion, the President delivered a statement.

8. At the same meeting, the Conference adopted the rules of procedure for the Conference (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/1).

9. Also at the same meeting, the Conference adopted the provisional agenda and timetable (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/2) with the following agenda items:

1. Opening of the Conference by the Secretary-General of the United Nations or his representative
2. Election of the President
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure
4. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters
5. Election of officers other than the President
6. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
 - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
 - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee
7. Confirmation of the Secretary of the Conference
8. Welcoming address on behalf of the host country
9. Address by the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
10. Presentation of a progress report on cooperation to facilitate the entry into force of the Treaty
11. General exchange of views by ratifiers and signatories on facilitating the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
12. Consideration of specific measures to facilitate the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
13. Statements by non-signatory States
14. Statement on behalf of NGOs
15. Consideration and adoption of a final document
16. Any matters arising from paragraph 3 of Article XIV of the Treaty
17. Adoption of the report of the Conference
18. Closure of the Conference.

10. Also at the same meeting, in accordance with rule 6 of the rules of procedure, the Conference elected the representatives of Italy, Morocco, New Zealand, Poland and Venezuela as Vice-Presidents of the Conference.

11. Also at the same meeting, in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure, upon the proposal of the President, the Conference established a Credentials Committee composed of representatives of Namibia, Republic of Korea, Spain, Ukraine and Venezuela. The Report of the Credentials Committee (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/4) was adopted by the Conference at its fourth plenary meeting, on 5 September.

12. Also at the same meeting, in accordance with rule 11 of the rules of procedure, the Conference confirmed the nomination by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of Wolfgang Hoffmann, Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, as Secretary of the Conference.

13. Also at the same meeting, the Conference, in accordance with rule 34 of the rules of procedure, established a Committee of the Whole to discuss agenda item 12, entitled “Consideration of specific measures to facilitate the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty”. The Committee of the Whole met on 4 September under the chairmanship of Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan to the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization.

WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

14. The Conference held a total of four plenary meetings and had before it the following documents:

CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/1	Draft Rules of Procedure
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/2	Draft Provisional Agenda
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/3 and Corr.1 and Corr.2	Background Document by the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization Prepared for the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT (Vienna, 2003)
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/4	Credentials of Representatives to the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: Report of the Credentials Committee
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/CRP.1/Rev.1	Draft Final Declaration and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/CRP.2	Draft Report of the Conference
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/INF.1	Information for Participants at the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/INF.2	List of Non-Governmental Organizations Requesting Accreditation in Accordance with Rule 43 of the Draft Rules of Procedure
CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/INF.3	List of Participants at the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

15. At the first plenary meeting, Her Excellency Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Austria, gave a welcoming address on behalf of the host country.

16. At the same meeting, Wolfgang Hoffmann, Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, addressed the Conference.

17. Also at the same meeting, Patricia Espinosa Cantellano, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, presented a progress report on cooperation to facilitate the entry into force of the Treaty in accordance with paragraph 12(g) of the Final Declaration of the 2001 Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

18. At its first to fourth plenary meetings, from 3 to 5 September, under agenda item 11, the Conference held a general exchange of views by ratifiers and signatories on facilitating the entry into force of the Treaty. Statements were made by representatives of the following 66 participating States: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Holy See, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy (on behalf of the European Union, the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Iceland, Romania and Turkey), Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lithuania, Malaysia (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

19. At its third and fourth plenary meetings, on 4 and 5 September, in accordance with rule 40 of the rules of procedure, under agenda item 13, statements were made by the non-signatory States Afghanistan and Saint Kitts and Nevis.

20. At the fourth plenary meeting, in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, under agenda item 14, a statement on behalf of NGOs attending the Conference was made by Klaus Renoldner, representative of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

21. On 4 September, a seminar was organized by the participating States on the Benefits of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE

22. At the fourth plenary meeting, on 5 September, the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole presented a report on the discussion in the Committee of the Whole under agenda items 12 and 15 (Annex II to the present report).

23. At the same meeting, under agenda item 15, the Conference considered and adopted the Final Declaration and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, the text of which is contained in Annex I to the present report. At the time of the adoption of the Final Declaration, the Conference noted that representatives of the following non-signatory States had attended the Conference: Afghanistan, Cuba, Pakistan, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Saudi Arabia. The Conference welcomed them and expressed appreciation for their presence. The President informed the Conference of his intention to request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as Depositary of the Treaty, to forward the Final Declaration to all States as soon as possible.

24. Also at the same meeting, the Conference considered agenda item 16, entitled “Any matters arising from paragraph 3 of Article XIV of the Treaty”, and took note of the provisions contained in paragraph 3 of Article XIV of the Treaty.

25. Also at the same meeting, the Conference considered and adopted its report.

ANNEX I**FINAL DECLARATION
AND MEASURES TO PROMOTE THE ENTRY INTO FORCE
OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY****FINAL DECLARATION**

1. We the ratifiers, together with the States Signatories, met in Vienna from 3 to 5 September 2003 to promote the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty at the earliest possible date. In accordance with the mandate given to us in Article XIV of the Treaty, we decided by consensus what measures consistent with international law may be undertaken to accelerate the ratification process in order to facilitate the early entry into force of the Treaty.
2. We reaffirmed our strong determination to enhance international peace and security throughout the world and stressed the importance of a universal and internationally and effectively verifiable comprehensive nuclear-test-ban treaty as a major instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects. We reiterated that the cessation of all nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions, by constraining the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and ending the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, constitutes an effective measure of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation in all its aspects and thus a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process to achieve nuclear disarmament. We therefore renewed our commitment to work for universal ratification of the Treaty and its early entry into force.
3. We noted with appreciation the overwhelming support for the Treaty that has been expressed by the United Nations General Assembly and other multilateral and regional organs and initiatives, which have called for signature and ratification of the Treaty as soon as possible and have urged all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level. We reaffirmed the importance of the Treaty and its entry into force for the practical steps for the systematic and progressive efforts towards nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation which were agreed to by the participating States at international forums dealing with nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.
4. Since the Treaty was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly and opened for signature almost seven years ago, progress has been made in the ratification process. We welcomed this as evidence of the strong determination of States not to carry out any nuclear weapon test explosion or any other nuclear explosion, and to prohibit and prevent any such nuclear explosion at any place under their jurisdiction or control. As of today, 168 States have signed and 104 States have deposited their instruments of ratification. Of the 44 States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty whose ratification is required for its entry into force, 41 have signed, and of these, 32 have also ratified the Treaty. A list of those States is provided in the Appendix.
5. However, despite the progress made and the strong support for the Treaty by the international community, we noted with concern that it has not entered into force seven years after its opening for signature. In this connection, we stress the particular importance of prompt signature and ratification by those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force but who have not yet done so.

6. The prevention of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is one of the most important challenges facing the world. International developments have occurred since the 2001 Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT which make entry into force, within the broader framework of multilateral disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation efforts, as urgent today as when the Treaty was negotiated. We therefore reaffirm that the CTBT has an essential role to play in strengthening global peace and security.

7. We call upon all States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty without delay, in particular those 12 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force.

8. We further call upon all States to continue a moratorium on nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions. Voluntary adherence to such a moratorium is of the highest importance, but does not have the same effect as entry into force of the Treaty, which offers the global community the prospect of a permanent and legally binding commitment to end nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions. We reaffirm our commitment to the Treaty's basic obligations and call on all States to refrain from acts which would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty pending its entry into force.

9. We consider it essential to maintain momentum in building the verification regime, which shall be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty at its entry into force. The verification system will be unprecedented in its global reach after entry into force of the Treaty and will thereby ensure confidence that States are maintaining their Treaty commitments. In this context, we will continue to provide the support required to enable the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to complete its tasks in the most efficient and cost-effective way.

10. We reaffirm our determination to continue to work towards an early entry into force of the Treaty and to this end adopt the following measures.

MEASURES TO PROMOTE THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

Convinced of the importance of achieving universal adherence to the Treaty, we

- (a) Will spare no efforts and use all avenues open to us in conformity with international law to encourage further signature and ratification of the Treaty, and urge all States to sustain the momentum generated by this Conference by continuing to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level;
- (b) Support and encourage bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives by interested countries and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to promote the entry into force of the Treaty;
- (c) Agree that ratifying States will select one of their number as a coordinator to promote cooperation, through informal consultations with all interested countries, aimed at promoting further signatures and ratifications;

- (d) Will establish a contact list of countries among ratifiers which volunteer to assist the coordinator in various regions, as appropriate, in promoting activities enhancing the entry into force of the Treaty;
- (e) Agree that ratifying States will consider appointing a Special Representative to assist the coordinating State in the performance of its function in promoting the entry into force of the Treaty;
- (f) Recommend that ratifying States will consider establishing a trust fund, financed through voluntary contributions, to support an outreach programme for promoting the Treaty;
- (g) Encourage the organization of regional seminars in conjunction with other regional meetings in order to increase the awareness of the important role that the Treaty plays;
- (h) Call upon the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to continue its international cooperation activities and organizing seminars for experts in the legal and technical fields;
- (i) Call upon the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to continue promoting understanding of the Treaty and demonstrating the benefits of the civil and scientific applications of the verification technologies, inter alia, in such areas as environment and earth science and technology;
- (j) Recommend that the Provisional Technical Secretariat continue to provide States with legal assistance with respect to the ratification process and implementation measures and, in order to enhance these activities and their visibility, establish a contact point for a better exchange and dissemination of relevant information and documentation;
- (k) Request the Provisional Technical Secretariat to act as a 'focal point' where information about activities undertaken by ratifiers and signatories is collected in order to assist in promoting the entry into force of the Treaty;
- (l) Encourage cooperation with non-governmental organizations and other elements of civil society to raise awareness of and support for the Treaty and its objectives, as well as the need for its early entry into force.

Appendix to the Final Declaration of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, Vienna, 2003

List of States

A. States which have ratified the Treaty

Albania	Hungary	Paraguay
Algeria	Iceland	Peru
Argentina	Ireland	Philippines
Australia	Italy	Poland
Austria	Jamaica	Portugal
Azerbaijan	Japan	Qatar
Bangladesh	Jordan	Republic of Korea
Belarus	Kazakhstan	Romania
Belgium	Kenya	Russian Federation
Benin	Kiribati	Saint Lucia
Bolivia	Kuwait	Samoa
Botswana	Lao People's Democratic Republic	San Marino
Brazil	Latvia	Senegal
Bulgaria	Lesotho	Sierra Leone
Burkina Faso	Lithuania	Singapore
Cambodia	Luxembourg	Slovakia
Canada	Maldives	Slovenia
Chile	Mali	South Africa
Costa Rica	Malta	Spain
Côte d'Ivoire	Mauritania	Sweden
Croatia	Mexico	Switzerland
Cyprus	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Tajikistan
Czech Republic	Monaco	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Denmark	Mongolia	Turkey
Ecuador	Morocco	Turkmenistan
El Salvador	Namibia	Uganda
Estonia	Nauru	Ukraine
Fiji	Netherlands	United Arab Emirates
Finland	New Zealand	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
France	Nicaragua	Uruguay
Gabon	Niger	Uzbekistan
Georgia	Nigeria	Venezuela
Germany	Norway	
Greece	Oman	
Grenada	Panama	
Guyana		
Holy See		

B. The following 44 States, whose ratification is required for the entry into force of the Treaty in accordance with Article XIV, are listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty

Algeria	Egypt	Poland
Argentina	Finland	Republic of Korea
Australia	France	Romania
Austria	Germany	Russian Federation
Bangladesh	Hungary	Slovakia
Belgium	India	South Africa
Brazil	Indonesia	Spain
Bulgaria	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Sweden
Canada	Israel	Switzerland
Chile	Italy	Turkey
China	Japan	Ukraine
Colombia	Mexico	United Kingdom of
Democratic People's	Netherlands	Great Britain and
Republic of Korea	Norway	Northern Ireland
Democratic Republic	Pakistan	United States of America
of the Congo	Peru	Viet Nam

1. States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty which have signed and ratified the Treaty

Algeria	Germany	Slovakia
Argentina	Hungary	South Africa
Australia	Italy	Spain
Austria	Japan	Sweden
Bangladesh	Mexico	Switzerland
Belgium	Netherlands	Turkey
Brazil	Norway	Ukraine
Bulgaria	Peru	United Kingdom of
Canada	Poland	Great Britain and
Chile	Republic of Korea	Northern Ireland
Finland	Romania	
France	Russian Federation	

2. States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty which have signed but not ratified the Treaty

China	Egypt	United States of America
Colombia	Indonesia	Viet Nam
Democratic Republic	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	
of the Congo	Israel	

3. States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty which have not signed the Treaty

Democratic People's	India	Pakistan
Republic of Korea		

ANNEX II

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, AMBASSADOR YUKIO TAKASU, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF JAPAN TO THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY ORGANIZATION

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT FINAL DECLARATION OF THE CONFERENCE

Paragraph 3 of the Draft Final Declaration

1. At the meeting of the Committee of the Whole on 4 September 2003, a proposal was made to amend paragraph 3 of the Draft Final Declaration and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/CRP.1), with a view to achieving consensus. Following further consultations on 5 September 2003, agreement was reached on paragraph 3, as reflected in the Final Declaration of the Conference and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/5, Annex I).

Paragraph (b) of the Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

2. A proposal was made to add a reference to the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to paragraph (b) of the measures. No objection was expressed to this proposal and it was reflected accordingly in the Final Declaration of the Conference and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/5, Annex I).

Paragraphs (d) (bis) and (d) (ter) of the Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

3. Following on discussion at the informal consultations in Vienna in advance of the Conference, the participating States which had proposed paragraphs (d) (bis) and (d) (ter) of the Draft Final Declaration and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/CRP.1) distributed non-papers providing more details on both proposals.

4. A number of questions were raised in the Committee of the Whole. The need for further discussion among ratifying States on both proposals was recognized.

5. After consultation, the language contained in the draft declaration for paragraph (d) (bis) was agreed, with a minor amendment, as reflected in paragraph (e) of the Final Declaration of the Conference and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/5, Annex I).

6. This agreement was reached on the basis of the following understanding:

“With regard to the proposal to consider appointing a Special Representative to assist the coordinating State in the performance of its functions in promoting the entry into force of the Treaty, ratifying States will consider the proposal at a special meeting of ratifying States before the end of 2003, on the basis of an explanatory memorandum addressing such issues as role, functions and accountability, as well as comments thereon from ratifying States.”

7. With regard to the proposal to consider establishing a trust fund to support an outreach programme for promoting the Treaty (paragraph (d) (ter) of CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/CRP.1), questions were raised, including regarding the priorities for use of the fund and the relation to activities of the Preparatory Commission. As in the case of the proposal for appointing a Special Representative, it was agreed that ratifying States would further discuss the proposal to consider establishing a trust fund on the basis of an explanatory memorandum, at a special meeting of ratifying States before the end of 2003.

8. It was agreed to amend paragraph (d) (ter) of the Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, as reflected in paragraph (f) of the Final Declaration of the Conference and Measures to Promote the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT – Art.XIV/2003/5, Annex I).

9. That concluded the discussion on the draft Final Declaration of the Conference.

CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC MEASURES TO FACILITATE THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

10. The next item addressed by the Committee of the Whole was “Consideration of specific measures to facilitate the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty”.

11. Colombia, as an Annex 2 State, reaffirmed its commitment to the Treaty and reported on progress in its internal ratification process. Colombia made a proposal to overcome its constitutional impediments to making any financial contributions to the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization prior to ratification of the Treaty.

12. Participating States taking the floor expressed appreciation for the commitment expressed by Colombia to ratification of the Treaty and expressed their interest in finding a solution to its particular impediments. At the same time, with regard to the concrete proposal made, participating States noted that it could have various implications and required further discussion. Participating States suggested that the issue should be discussed further in the context of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and its subsidiary bodies, with the advice of the Provisional Technical Secretariat.