

**Statement of the Executive Secretary of the
Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive
Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization to the
47th Regular Session of the IAEA General Conference
Vienna, 15-19 September 2003**

Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to present you with recent developments regarding the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).

1. Since its adoption by the United Nations General Assembly in September 1996 the Treaty has increasingly become universal in its status, with 168 Signatories and 104 states having deposited their instruments of ratification with the UN Secretary-General. With Algeria having ratified recently, the ratifiers include 32 of the 44 States whose ratification is required for the Treaty to enter into force.
2. The 2003 Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in Vienna, 3-5 September 2003, was successfully concluded with the adoption of a Final Declaration that stressed the importance of a universal and effectively verifiable comprehensive Treaty as a major instrument in all aspects of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The conference reiterated that the cessation of nuclear-weapon tests and all other nuclear explosions, by constraining the development and qualitative development of nuclear weapons and ending the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons, constituted an effective measure of nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation.
3. The Commission and its Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) based in Vienna, in the sixth year of their lively and challenging existence, are continuing actively in preparing the effective implementation of the CTBT.

4. As a primary obligation “Each State Party undertakes 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 its jurisdiction or control.” The ban includes all environments and does not set a threshold for testing. The Treaty’s primary objective is “to contribute effectively to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects” and “to the process of nuclear disarmament”. Over a 100 States are accredited to the Commission.

5. The CTBT provides for the establishment of a unique global verification regime that consists of an International Monitoring System (IMS), a consultation and clarification process, on-site inspections (OSIs) and confidence building measures (CBMs). Data from IMS stations around the globe are processed and analysed by the International Data Centre (IDC) in Vienna. All IMS data and IDC products are made available to Member States, who have the final responsibility for analysing the data.

6. The programme budgets approved by the Commission since 1997 for establishing the IMS include the costs of the site surveys, the purchase of equipment, installation, final certification, and operation and maintenance of the facilities. The installation of the monitoring network is proceeding at a steady pace.

7. Site surveys have now been completed for 91% of the IMS stations. The number of stations substantially meeting specifications has increased, bringing this phase of the establishment to 52% of the stations. Today, about 65 facilities are certified as meeting the IMS specifications. Nearly 60 IMS stations are currently funded for operation and maintenance (O&M), either for testing and evaluation prior to certification or for post-certification activities.

8. PTS-wide coordination of O&M of the IMS continues. The development of the O&M procedures has completed its first phase with a concise mapping of all of the processes, sub-processes and procedures that cut across the IMS, Global Communications Infrastructure (GCI) and International Data Centre (IDC). The IMS Reporting System (IRS), version 2.0, will be ready by the fourth quarter of 2003. This version includes a Web front end for station operators to use via the Internet or GCI. Such a tool will help the IMS Division in troubleshooting problems at facilities.

9. The IDC supports the verification and civil and scientific interests of Member States by providing products and services necessary for effective global monitoring through the establishment and testing of facilities that will receive, collect, process, analyze, report on, and archive data received from IMS stations. As of today, about 85 IMS stations are moved into IDC operations. The IDC work on the design, implementation and management of information security is progressing.

10. Work continued on embedding the information security management process into PTS practices. Special attention has been given to policy issues regarding the use of PTS email and access to the PTS computer infrastructure by internal and remote users. Education has started on the PTS systems and procedures that support data

authentication. Digital certificates, needed to authenticate digital signatures, have been issued for new stations and stations that were failing authentication.

11. Around 70 secure signatory accounts (one for each requesting State Signatory) had been established, with over 490 users authorized to access IMS data and IDC products and receive technical support from the IDC. More than 360 requests from authorized users regarding technical information were received and answered.

12. The Global Communications Infrastructure transfers IMS data to the IDC and disseminates these data and IDC products to States Signatories. The PTS operates the GCI as a worldwide, closed and secure satellite communications network. Once it is fully operational, the GCI network is expected to carry daily some 11 gigabytes of data. The programme of very small aperture terminal (VSAT) installations has continued. As of today, around 145 VSATs have been installed out of the planned total of 234.

13. The elaboration of the draft OSI Operational Manual remains a priority task. The PTS will continue to provide, upon request, all necessary support to the elaboration process. The ninth OSI workshop, hosted by Japan, was conducted from 30 June to 4 July 2003 in Hiroshima. The topics addressed were the results and lessons of the 2002 OSI field experiment conducted in Kazakhstan for the elaboration of the OSI Operational Manual and development and testing of OSI equipment.

14. Today, the PTS has about 270 staff members from 70 countries, of whom around 175 are in the Professional category. The PTS is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunities. The representation of women in Professional positions has increased to 27.6% of the staff in the Professional category. The PTS continues to cooperate with other VIC based international organizations on the provision and management of joint services at the VIC.

Thank you