

Постоянное  
представительство  
Российской Федерации  
при Организации  
Объединённых Наций



Permanent Mission  
of the Russian  
Federation  
to the United Nations

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**STATEMENT  
OF THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**AT THE 8<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE ON FACILITATING THE ENTRY INTO  
FORCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY**

**DELIVERED BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR  
SECURITY AFFAIRS AND DISARMAMENT  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
ALEXEY KARPOV**

**New York, September 27, 2013**

Distinguished Mr.Chairman,

First of all, let me congratulate you and the representative of (Hungary/Indonesia) with their appointment as Co-Chairs of the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) and express my confidence in the successful outcome of our Forum under your leadership.

Definitely, the earliest entry into force of the CTBT is our priority and nowadays' imperative. The Treaty is destined to become an essential element of the international legal security system and an important link in the chain of other non-proliferation and disarmament instruments.

We can state with satisfaction that a wide international consensus is being formed in support of the CTBT. Most of the States do not see other ways of enhancing international security and stability than through generally recognized international legal rules, elaborated on a collective basis.

We look with optimism at positive developments in connection with the CTBT. At present, 183 States have signed it already and 159 of them have ratified the Treaty. Two years since our last meeting - the CTBT has been signed by Niue, which once again testifies to the determined position of the countries in the Southern Pacific against nuclear testing in this region. Within the same time frame the Treaty has been ratified by Guatemala (January 2012), Brunei Darussalam (January 2013), Chad (February 2013). We especially welcome the ratification of the CTBT by the Republic of Indonesia (February 2012), included in the so-called "List of 44", whose joining the Treaty is essential for its entry into force. Thus, one more resolute step has been made towards the CTBT becoming an effective international legal instrument.

However, we must admit that seventeen years since the opening of the CTBT for signature the prospects of a full scale launching of the Treaty's regime still remain blurred, which gives all reasons for concern. We believe, that special responsibility for the future of the CTBT lies with the remaining 8 States of the "List of 44", who are containing its entry into force. We call upon these States to

follow Indonesia's example and join the Treaty as soon as possible and without preconditions.

In this respect we welcome the intention of the U.S. – that was confirmed publicly long ago and more than once – to launch the process of the ratification of the CTBT. We are waiting for some practical steps to be made in this direction. We proceed from the fact that the U.S. needs the Treaty, just like us and other countries. Without it the international legal security system – and we are all interested in its strengthening - cannot be complete and effective.

Using this tribune, as a representative of a State-depositary of the NPT, I would also like to call on certain States of the Middle East to ratify the CTBT as soon as possible. It would become an important confidence building measure in the region and would contribute to the process of establishing there a zone free of nuclear weapons and all other weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.

Doubtlessly, all the States who support the CTBT must continue their efforts to promote the Treaty, including the building up of the so-called “positive mass” of the States that have ratified it. Every new ratification of the Treaty constitutes one more step towards its universalization and its early entry into force.

Russia, for its part, is determined to continue to support the CTBT within the international formats: the United Nations, the G8, the new NPT review process, and the regional and interparliamentary forums. We actively advocate the CTBT through our bilateral contacts as well.

We would like to draw your attention to the need for all States to adhere to the letter and spirit of the Treaty before its entry into force. It is essential that within this period the nuclear test moratorium is observed. Russia intends to further comply with this commitment, if other nuclear weapon States follow the suit.

Distinguished Mr.Chairman,

Our country supports the efforts of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission to

establish a Treaty verification mechanism and actively participates in this work. We can record significant progress in this field.

The Russian Federation closely cooperates with the CTBTO Preparatory Commission in establishing the International Monitoring System (IMS) facilities on its territory. Today more than 70% of the Russian segment of the IMS has become operational.

We note an active preparation to conducting in 2014 the second large-scale on-site inspection integrated field exercise in Jordan. Having such integrated field exercises is very important, as they help to work out the operational readiness of this key element of the CTBT verification mechanism.

Even being unfinished, the CTBT verification mechanism has more than once demonstrated its viability and efficiency. The verification system of the Treaty has opened wide possibilities for early prevention of and emergency response to global natural and man-caused disasters.

We would like to use this opportunity to welcome once again the appointment of Dr.L.Zerbo as the new Executive Secretary of the CTBTO Preparatory Commission and to assure him, that Russia intends to continue its support to the multidirectional activity of the Commission under his leadership. We actively welcomed Dr.Zerbo's initiative to create the "Group of Eminent Persons" aimed to advocate the CTBT. From the Russian part, the former Foreign minister I.Ivanov has become a member of this Group. We do hope that the Group's activity would significantly contribute to our common efforts with a view of turning the Treaty into an effective international legal instrument.

In conclusion, once again, we call on the States who have not already done so to sign and/or ratify the CTBT, to do it without delay or preconditions. We believe that in this issue one must act independently, proceeding from one's own national interests. It is necessary to understand that signing and ratifying the CTBT – is the global "best practice", that has become an imperative of today's international relations. It makes it possible to be directly involved in the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime, the CTBT being its key

element, rather than remain an outsider or a simple observer of this process.

We would like to note that Russia has supported the draft Final Declaration of the Conference and Measures to promote the entry into force of the CTBT contained therein. We are ready to participate actively in their implementation.

Thank you for your attention.