



CTBTO
PREPARATORY COMMISSION

COMPREHENSIVE
NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN
TREATY ORGANIZATION

Joint Statement
by H.E. Mr. Mukhtar Tileuberdi, Deputy Prime Minister –
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan
and Dr. Robert Floyd, Executive Secretary of
the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)

Nur-Sultan - Vienna 29 August 2022

1. On the occasion of the International Day against Nuclear Tests, proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly at the initiative of Kazakhstan, we reaffirm our commitment to realizing a world free of nuclear testing and renew our resolve to achieve the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT).
2. The closure of the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site on 29 August 1991 has become a symbolic date for Kazakhstan and the international community. This important event sent a strong political message and contributed to international efforts that led to the adoption of the CTBT in 1996. Since its adoption, Kazakhstan has consistently supported the CTBT and the build-up of its verification regime.
3. This year also marks the 30th anniversary of the National Nuclear Center (NNC) of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which operates five IMS stations in Kazakhstan and administrates the former Semipalatinsk nuclear test site. The Director General of the NNC is effectively chairing the CTBTO Working Group B.
4. With 186 signatures and 174 ratifications, there has been much progress towards the universalization of the CTBT. We welcome the recent ratifications of the Treaty by Gambia, Tuvalu, Dominica and Timor-Leste, all of which reflect a successful collective effort of all stakeholders on the 25th anniversary year of the Treaty. Its verification regime is nearly complete. Although yet to become legally binding, adherence to the CTBT and the norm against nuclear testing has become virtually universal.
5. We reaffirm the CTBT's role as a key pillar of the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament regime within the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) Review process. The CTBT is an effective and practical measure to achieve a world without nuclear weapons.
6. We invite all States to attend the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate and promote the International Day against Nuclear Tests at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, which will take place on 7 September 2022.
7. We call on all States to continue to observe the moratoria on nuclear explosions. We urge those States that have not yet signed and/or ratified the Treaty to do so without delay. We call on the eight remaining Annex 2 States, whose ratifications are required for entry into force of the CTBT, to demonstrate their commitment to nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament by taking this important step in support of international peace and security.
8. It is high time to bring the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty into force to advance nuclear disarmament and create a safer and more secure world for future generations - a shared goal of humanity in the 21st century.