



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Hungary to the United Nations Office  
And Other International Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by Hungary  
CTBT PrepCom, 16 June 2014**

Mr Chairman,

Let me express my sincere thanks for your excellent leadership of the Preparatory Commission and assure you of Hungary's full support and cooperation. I also thank you and the PTS for the work in preparing for this meeting, and the Executive Secretary for his written and oral reports. Hungary fully associates itself with the statement delivered by Greece on behalf of the Presidency of the European Union. I would also like to welcome Ms Angela Kane, the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, and thank her for addressing the Commission.

Mr Chairman,

The CTBT plays a central role in strengthening the international non-proliferation regime. For this reason, States Signatories must ensure that the Treaty and its goals remain a priority for high level decision-makers. We are delighted to continue working for this cause serving along with Indonesia as Article XIV coordinators. We strongly urge all States which have not yet signed or ratified the Treaty, in particular the eight remaining Annex II States, to do so without further delay. Being strongly committed to the universalisation of the CTBT, we welcome the latest ratification of the Treaty by Niue.

It is our assessment that despite a successful Article XIV Conference last year, the entry into force process needs to be reinvigorated. The nuclear tests by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea once again highlighted the relevance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the need for it to enter into force. It also demonstrated the high performance and growing effectiveness of the CTBT monitoring system. The news reporting on an eventual fourth nuclear test by the DPRK are subject to a major concern. We call on the DPRK to refrain from any further action in this direction as well as to sign and ratify the CTBT without delay.

We welcome the advances made by the Preparatory Commission of the CTBTO in building the Treaty's verification regime. We note that the substantial progress in strengthening this

regime is being increasingly recognized by members of the scientific community, including in states yet to ratify. We reaffirm our commitment to support the completion of the verification regime and urge all States Signatories to do likewise.

Hungary and Indonesia, as Article XIV coordinators, according to the pledges outlined in their Action Plan distributed among member states last December, in their interaction with the outstanding countries, are committed to initiate an open and frank reflection process on the issue of the early entry into force of the CTBT. We lay a special emphasis on raising awareness about the verifiability of the CTBT and the membership benefits such as access to monitoring data that can be used for disaster mitigation purposes and scientific research as well.

Allow me to refer shortly to the main undertakings realized in the framework of the Article XIV process since the last PrepCom: At the meeting of the Group of Eminent Persons (GEM) in Stockholm on 10-11 April 2014 the members of the Group discussed ways to inject new energy and dynamics into efforts to promote the entry into force of the Treaty. The overall objective of the workshop was to develop a plan of action and outline potential activities of the GEM in 2014 and beyond, especially with regard to outreach work in the non-ratifying Annex 2 States. I am happy to announce that the work started in Stockholm can continue in Budapest, as we are ready to host the next GEM meeting in early November 2014.

As part of the 2014 CTBT Academic Forum a panel discussion took place on 8 May at our mission that was attended by all participants of the Academic Forum. About 40 scientists and researchers coming from 20 countries, as well as the ambassadors of some of these countries have participated at the event. Presentations provided at the meeting touched upon the Indonesian ratification process, the outreach activities of the Article XIV coordinators and the contribution of the European Union to the CTBTO.

The regional conference for states in Southeast Asia, the Pacific and the Far East held on 19-21 May 2014 in Jakarta with the participation of 20 states from the region was an excellent opportunity to give an impetus to the acceleration of the ratification process in some key-countries from this important part of the world.

Preparations for the CTBT Ministerial Meeting to be held in New York in September 2014 have been started by the Group of Friends of the CTBT. Hungary would like to assure the Friends Group of its full support for arranging another successful CTBT Ministerial Meeting.

Mr Chairman,

To conclude, let me note that we are looking forward to the implementation of the upcoming Integrated Field Exercise in November–December 2014 in Jordan. It will be a crucial moment for the CTBTO representing an important step forward in improving the operational readiness of the on-site inspection component of the verification regime.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman