

*The Permanent Mission
of the Kingdom of Morocco
to the United Nations*



البعثة الدائمة
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Statement of:

*His Excellency the Minister of foreign Affairs and
cooperation*

*In his capacity as a Co-Chair
of the Special Conference on the facilitation
of the entry into force of the CTBT*

New York, 24th September 2009

**Excellencies;
H.E. Mr. Secretary General
Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is my pleasure to welcome you all in this very important meeting which is taking place at a very special juncture, marked by the desire of the International Community to strengthen multilateralism and to give to the issues of Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, the importance they deserve since they constitute a fundamental element in the consolidation of the international peace and security.

I would like also to express the pride of the Kingdom of Morocco in co-chairing this conference, along with a friendly country, France, and its commitment to work with all state parties to ensure the facilitation of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).

**Excellencies;
H.E. Mr. Secretary General
Ladies and Gentlemen**

Today, it is impossible for the international Community to ignore the numerous and persisting calls for the elimination of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), and particularly, nuclear weapons.

In this regard, the primary responsibility to free the world from the scourge of nuclear weapons, to stop its nuclear proliferation and to cease the development of nuclear programs, is incumbent to the nuclear powers without any prejudice to the legitimate right of all countries to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

While the announcement by some powerful nuclear countries to renew their commitments for a world free from nuclear weapons has indeed nourished some

hope, we expect them to take additional and concrete measures in order to reinforce the nuclear disarmament and non proliferation regime.

**Excellencies;
H.E. Mr. Secretary General
Ladies and Gentlemen**

These measures, to be taken by nuclear powers will certainly have a positive impact on the positions of the countries listed in annex 2 which belong to the regions that are undergoing a particular political situation.

On the other hand, while we're welcoming the voluntary moratoriums on Nuclear Tests to which interested countries are committed, we remain convinced that these moratoriums can not, in any case, be a substitute to the entry into force of the treaty which requires ratification by a large member of countries, particularly, those listed in the annex 2 of the treaty.

These important measures will, undoubtedly allow through the implementation of a high surveillance system, by the technical commission of the treaty, the prohibition of the production and the sophistication of new nuclear weapons, and will help promote trust in international foras that deal with nuclear disarmament and non proliferation issues.

**Excellencies;
H.E. Mr. Secretary General
Ladies and Gentlemen**

Being convinced of the importance of the consolidation of international peace and security, the Kingdom of Morocco, has under the guidance of His Majesty the King Mohammed VI, constructively adhered, to the regional and international efforts aiming at the consolidation of a Non Proliferation and Disarmament regime.

In this regard, the Kingdom of Morocco ratified, in 2000, the CTBT and has, since then, spared no efforts to expedite its entry into force and to implement its important provisions with a view to achieve international peace and security.

We highly value the activities undertaken by the preparatory commission (CTBTO) under the chairmanship of Mr. Tiboh Toth and its efficient contribution to the realization of the Treaty' objectives, thus paving the way for the implementation of its provisions once the Treaty has entered into force.

**Excellencies;
H.E. Mr. Secretary General
Ladies and Gentlemen**

We also welcome the excellent work done by the commission to consolidate the verification regime by activating the international surveillance system as a fundamental pillar of the CTBT, since this international body has scientific and technical capacities, as well as, all the necessary tools to exert an efficient and effective verification for a Comprehensive Ban of Nuclear Tests in order to get rid definitively of these weapons.

The Kingdom of Morocco also gives a particular importance to the Human dimension of the Treaty which allows through the early detection of earthquakes and Tsunami, the reduction and alleviation of the causes of these natural catastrophes that have a deadly impact on thousands of human lives.

**Excellencies;
H.E. Mr. Secretary General
Ladies and Gentlemen**

The kingdom of Morocco nourishes huge hope on the measures to be taken in the forthcoming month, to prepare for the next review NPT conference as well as on other meetings such as the Security Council Summit on Nuclear Non Proliferation and Nuclear Disarmament which is going to be convened shortly following the opening of this meeting.

We hope that the deliberations of today's meeting will be successful.