

15 August 2005

ENGLISH ONLY

**Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force
of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty**

New York, 21-23 September 2005

INFORMATION NOTE

Date and place

1. The Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) will be held from 21 to 23 September 2005, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

Opening of the Conference

2. The opening of the Conference will take place on Wednesday, **21 September 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber**. The Secretariat would also like to inform that it is the wish of the majority of the States which have ratified the CTBT that the Conference be attended at a high level.

Secretariat of the Conference

3. The Secretariat of the Conference may be contacted by telephone: (212) 963-3363; by fax: (212) 963-8892 or by writing to the following address:

Secretariat of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force
of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
Department for Disarmament Affairs (Room S-3140)
United Nations
New York, N.Y. 10017

Credentials

4. In accordance with rule 3 of the draft rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives of ratifiers and the names of alternate representatives and advisers should be submitted to the Secretariat of the Conference. Credentials should be issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The credentials should be submitted to Ms. Kerstin Bihlmaier, Department for Disarmament Affairs, room S-3140C; telephone: (212) 963- 2381; fax: (212) 963-8892, if possible **no later than 14 September 2005**. The names of representatives of States Signatories should also be submitted to the Secretariat of the Conference.

List of speakers

5. The list of speakers for the general exchange of views by ratifiers and signatories on facilitating the entry into force of the CTBT, will be opened on **22 August 2005**. For enquiries regarding the provisional list of speakers, please contact Ms. Bertha Ortiz, Department for Disarmament Affairs (tel.: (212) 963-0846; fax: (212) 963-8892); room S-3140).

6. Delegations wishing to be inscribed on the list of speakers for the general exchange of views (item 10 of the draft provisional agenda of the Conference) are kindly asked to communicate their request in writing to the Secretariat of the Conference (Department for Disarmament Affairs, room S-3140). States will be enlisted on a first-come-first serve basis, with the proviso that representatives at the highest level will be given priority.

7. Furthermore, in accordance with item 12 of the draft provisional agenda, States which have not signed the Treaty will be able to make statements at the Conference. Delegations wishing to be inscribed in the list of speakers are kindly requested to contact the Secretariat of the Conference.

Other States

8. Any State which, in accordance with Article XIV of the Treaty, has the right to sign the Treaty, but has not yet done so, may attend the Conference. Pursuant to rule 40 of the draft rules of procedure, representatives of these States shall be entitled to attend open meetings of the Conference, to address the Conference under the agenda item allocated for this purpose (see item 12 of the draft provisional agenda), to receive the documents of the Conference and to submit written contributions on matters under consideration by the Conference. Letters designating representatives to attend, as well as interest to address the Conference should be communicated to the Secretariat of the Conference.

List of participants

9. A list of participants will be prepared for the Conference on the basis of credentials and/or written lists of delegations that are provided to the Secretariat of the Conference. This information should be submitted to Ms. Kerstin Bihlmaier, Department for Disarmament Affairs, room S-3140C; telephone: (212) 963- 2381; fax: (212) 963-8892), if possible **no later than 14 September 2005**.

Documents of the Conference

10. The draft rules of procedure (CTBT-Art.XIV/2005/1), the draft provisional agenda (CTBT-Art.XIV/2005/2) and the background document by the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization prepared for the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the CTBT (CTBT-Art.XIV/2005/3) can be accessed on the website at <http://disarmament2.un.org/wmd/ctbt/2005-Conference/index.html> together with other relevant information about the Conference.

Registration of delegations

11. Representatives of delegations not stationed in New York are advised to obtain grounds passes through their Permanent Mission in New York.

Statements

12. As a general guidance, it is assumed that, at the discretion of the President, statements will be limited to five minutes. Delegations are kindly advised to provide 300 copies of the official statement of their representatives for distribution in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Side events

13. The following side events are planned at this stage:

Thursday 22 September 2005

Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) Seminar:

“Facilitating the Early Entry-Into-Force of the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty: Overcoming Political and Technological Challenges”

Place: Conference Room 4

Schedule: 1:00 – 1:15 PM refreshments
1:15 - 2:45 PM seminar, Q&A and discussion

Speakers: Mr. Michael Crowley
Executive Director, VERTIC
Mr. Lassina Zerbo
Director, International Data Centre Division,
Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO

Friday 23 September 2005

Seminar on Benefits of the CTBT: “Potential Civil and Scientific Applications of the CTBTO Verification Technologies.”

Place: Conference Room 4

Schedule: 1:00 – 1:15 PM refreshments
1:15 – 2:45 PM presentation, Q&A and discussion

Speaker: Mr. Lassina Zerbo
Director, International Data Centre Division,
Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO
