



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK**

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**CONFERENCE ON FACILITATING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY  
STATEMENT BY H.E. AMBASSADOR MARTIN FRICK  
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Co-Presidents,

At the outset, allow me to join previous speakers in congratulating you on your election to the Presidency of this seventh Article XIV Conference of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and thank the Secretary-General for convening it. A small State without armed forces like Liechtenstein looks to strong international legal norms in the field of disarmament for protection. This is why we signed and ratified the CTBT, and this is why today we renew our call to all remaining non-States Parties to ratify the treaty. In the two years since the last conference good progress has been made. Brunei Darussalam, Chad and Guatemala ratified the treaty, as well as Indonesia as an Annex 2 State. The Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) has become stronger. Today, more than 85 per cent of the worldwide monitoring system is operational. But there is still more to be done. The detonation of a nuclear bomb by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in February again underscored the importance of the CTBT and the CTBTO. I would like to use this occasion to encourage all states that have not ratified the treaty yet, especially those listed in Annex 2 of the Treaty, to do so.

We need to renew our efforts towards achieving the entry into force of this treaty. Nevertheless, we must also admit that the lack of progress in this regard is part of the overall lack of consensus in multilateral disarmament. Some Nuclear Weapons States that have not yet become party to the Treaty are maintaining *de facto* moratoria on the testing of nuclear weapons, and we commend them for doing so. But these cannot be a permanent substitute to a legal commitment never to test nuclear weapons again. Becoming party to the treaty, moreover, is an important confidence-building measure.

Entry into force for the CTBT is a key part of the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation agendas. Let us all work together to take further steps towards this important goal. I thank you.