

CHILE

MISION PERMANENTE ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS

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***STATEMENT BY
AMBASSADOR ALFREDO LABBE,
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF CHILE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

TO THE CONFERENCE
ON FACILITATING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE
OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY***

New York, 22 September 2005

Madam President,

Allow me first to congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your election and to assure you of our full cooperation.

In response to your recommendation for brevity, Chile will make the following comments on this occasion.

- Our Treaty is undoubtedly a cornerstone of the juridical "corpus" of international disarmament law and its essential prohibition of nuclear explosions advances through praxis towards its consolidation as customary law.
- The next step in our journey towards nuclear disarmament is the negotiation of the treaty to ban the production of fissile materials for weapons purposes.
- In reiterating our appeal to the 11 remaining annex 2 States to ratify the Treaty as soon as possible, we emphasize the value – no less because of its provisional nature – of the nuclear test moratoriums that several of them have proclaimed.
- Pending the entry into force of the Treaty, we signatory States must continue to cooperate closely with the Provisional Technical Secretariat, which has developed and set up much of the International Monitoring System. Chile is already contributing with seven stations (covering the four verification technologies) and is prepared to increase this number, since the stations on Chilean territory cover a huge maritime space in the South Pacific and the Drake Sea.
- Congratulations go to Ambassador Tibor Tóth, a good friend and veteran champion of the cause of disarmament, whose patience, persistence and vast diplomatic skills are very well known to us and much admired. We are sure that he will brilliantly continue the efforts of Ambassador Wolfgang Hoffman, whom we thank for his devotion and successful performance of the initial task of leading our organization.
- We share the frustration of the overwhelming majority of Members of the United Nations at the failure of the Sixth NPT Review Conference and the absence of a section on disarmament and non-proliferation in the Outcome Document of the recent Summit. Despite this, we must continue to support the disarmament and non-proliferation regimes relating to weapons of mass destruction and their delivery vehicles, using all the means at our disposal. Chile reiterates its support for Security Council resolution 1540 and the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation and its willingness to join the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group and the Wassenaar Arrangement.

- Chile reiterates here the support given to the initiative spearheaded by Norway to incorporate a balanced and satisfactory section on disarmament and non-proliferation in the Outcome Document, which was supported by 80 States.
- At the same time, we reaffirm our appeal for the entry into force of Safeguard Protocols based on the Model Protocol negotiated in the 93 + 2 process.
- We support the extension of the application of the International Monitoring System to early warning of natural disasters. We believe that this would promote the effective multilateralism that we desire within the framework of the United Nations reform process.
- Lastly, we reiterate our conviction that the Treaty enhances both non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament – our common, imperative objective.

Thank you.