



MALAYSIA

PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA

11TH CONFERENCE ON FACILITATING THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

NEW YORK, 25 SEPTEMBER 2019

Thank you, Co-Presidents,

Although much progress had been made since the CTBT was opened for signature on 24 September 1996, the fact that we are meeting in the format of this Conference, for the 11th time, for the past 23 years, is indicative that more work needs to be done.

Co-Presidents,

2. Malaysia signed the CTBT on 23 July 1998 and ratified it on 17 January 2008. We are supportive of the Treaty. The Treaty advances international peace and security by making a significant contribution towards the prevention of the vertical proliferation of nuclear weapons. Preventing the testing of nuclear weapons gives impetus to the process of

nuclear disarmament, and the shared goal of a world free of nuclear weapons.

3. Malaysia maintains an excellent working relationship with the CTBTO, and since 4 November 2008, we have been hosting in Cameron Highlands a Radionuclide Monitoring Station (RMS) as part of the monitoring and verification installations under the Treaty. Additionally, our Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna is currently Chairperson of the Preparatory Commission for its 52nd session.

4. Malaysia reaffirms the vital importance and urgency of the entry into force of the CTBT. Malaysia calls upon all States, particularly those Annex 2 States that have yet to sign or ratify the Treaty, to do so, to allow the Treaty's entry into force. We believe this call needs to be reiterated by all State Parties, and by this Conference. This continued reaffirmation is needed to maintain the momentum towards full entry into force.

5. This Conference takes place at a critical juncture in the global nuclear disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation regime. This regime is being strained with the current global geo-strategic environment of tension and of nuclear risk. The recent termination of the INF Treaty is deeply regretted. This is further compounded with the possibility that the 2010 New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) will not be extended beyond its expiry in 2021, and the difficulties and challenges in nuclear disarmament discourse – whether through the NPT context, the Conference on Disarmament, and in other fora. These developments, if left unchecked, would breed instability and be detrimental towards international peace and

security. The world is also seeing the start of a new arms race with the development and testing of ground-based intermediate-range missiles following the termination of the INF, and pronouncements by its former state parties of further developments of such weapons.

6. There is a need for constructive dialogue between and among all states - the Nuclear Weapon States, nuclear armed states, and Non-Nuclear Weapons States. All have a responsibility to ensure that the disarmament and arms control architecture is preserved, and nuclear disarmament is advanced. The CTBT stands as an important pillar towards this end.

Co-Presidents,

7. You can be assured of Malaysia's steadfast commitment and support to the Treaty, the CTBT Organisation, and the work needed to ensure the entry into force of the Treaty as soon as possible.

I thank you.