

Statement

by Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine H.E. Mr. Pavlo Klimkin
at the Ministerial meeting dedicated to the 20th anniversary of signing
of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
(13 June 2016, 10:00-11:30, M-Building, Plenary Hall, VIC)

Mr. Chairman,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates.

Ukraine highly appreciates significance of this meeting.

The universalization of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty remains one of the key objectives of the multilateral efforts in the area of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.

Ukraine's historic decision to become a non-nuclear weapon state has accorded Ukraine a leadership position in the international community's quest to abolish nuclear weapons. We consistently stand for reducing the nuclear arsenals, stopping the modernization of nuclear weapons, and overall decrease of nuclear weapons' role in military and strategic doctrines of the states.

We are encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by 183 States and welcome the ratification of the Treaty by 164 States, including 36 of the 44 (Annex 2 states), whose ratification is needed for its entry into force. At the same time, we are confident that nuclear test moratorium voluntarily declared by different states plays a necessary but not sufficient role as **it will never replace the legally binding nature of the CTBT.**

Therefore, Ukraine calls upon all States which have yet to sign or ratify the CTBT, in particular the eight remaining Annex 2 States, to do so without delay.

Mr. Chairman,

The international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation process is still confronted with serious challenges. Announced by the DPRK the forth nuclear test on 6 January 2016, followed its nuclear tests in 2006, 2009 and 2013, **proved the urgent necessity of entry into force of the CTBT and its universalization.**

Ukraine is deeply concerned by the statements of high officials of the DPRK regarding yet another recent nuclear test. Pyongyang's actions are seen as a grave violation of the UN Security Council's resolutions and may lead to further significant aggravation of the situation on the Korean peninsula. Moreover, it is the serious threat to the international peace and security.

Ukraine expects DPRK to stop the tests of nuclear devices, to adhere to respective UN Security Council resolutions and to renew its dialogue with the IAEA. In this regard, issues of **non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction will be in the focus of our attention during Ukraine's non-permanent membership in the UN Security Council in 2016-2017.**

Mr. Chairman,

We are encouraged by the CTBTO Preparatory Commission's efforts to establish the Treaty's verification and monitoring system that would provide a credible and effective way to monitor Treaty compliance.

Though the Treaty has not yet come into force, **we should continue to build up a technologically advanced verification system**, which in addition to the primary purpose of the CTBTO related to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, will be capable of bringing tangible scientific and civil benefits.

For our part, **Ukraine is making its own contribution to the development of the CTBTO International Monitoring System by hosting in Malin (Ukraine) primary seismic station PS 45** of the International Monitoring Station.

The fully operational and certified Station in Malin meets the world standards, which enable Ukraine to effectively exercise control over adherence of international treaties in the area of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and to conduct scientific researches including in the area of technogenic safety.

The PS 45 is one of the best world stations designed for identification of location of nuclear explosion sources. Favorable geographic location enables the Station to register maximum amount of sources which originated on the territory on the earth's sphere. Such benefits cause the necessity of its inclusion to the International Monitoring System.

Mr. Chairman,

We are confident that every State Party and the world community will benefit from a **transformation of the CTBT into the forceful international legal instrument**. They say, a word is mightier than the sword!

In a famous speech, delivered by Martin Luther King on 28 August 1963 at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington there are such words: "With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood". In a sense of today's meeting and in order to enforce the brotherhood of the world's community, my intention is to **urge the remaining eight Annex 2 states to sign and ratify the Treaty without further delay and unconditionally**.

Thank you.