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Address by the Executive Secretary  
of the Preparatory Commission for the  
Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

Mr Tibor Tóth

OSCE Review Conference, Vienna Part  
Monday, 18 October 2010

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Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The OSCE is at the forefront of the international community's efforts for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. You, the 56 participating States of the OSCE are all signatories to the CTBT and ratification is nearly all encompassing in the OSCE region. Nearly half of the monitoring stations and facilities that make up the International Monitoring System envisaged in the Treaty are hosted by OSCE participating States. We are grateful for your support for the Treaty and the Commission.

A few short months ago, the 2010 NPT Review Conference overcame the failure of 2005. The Conference reaffirmed the CTBT's essential role in the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and the vital importance of its entry into force. It is imperative that the international community implements the undertakings of the 2010 Review Conference. There is no shortcut to the implementation of these commitments. As the last barrier against nuclear weapons, the CTBT offers a systemic approach to address the challenges to the nuclear non proliferation regime.

I am pleased to announce that since I addressed the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation in April 2010, two more countries have ratified the Treaty. As of today, 182 countries have signed, and 153 States have ratified. Yet 9 of the 44 nuclear-capable States listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty whose ratification is needed for entry into force have not yet done so. Indonesia, one of these 9 States, is expected to ratify before the end of this year.

We need leadership, leadership and more leadership.

The Organization has made major achievements in the build up of CTBT's unprecedented verification regime. As it stands today, more than 80% of the International Monitoring System has been built and certified.

The Commission recognizes the true value of the investment with which it has been entrusted by Member States. This investment is a platform for scientific knowledge and capacity development in Member States. Whether it is in the area of early tsunami warning, aviation safety, climate change, or marine life research, the four monitoring technologies provide obvious benefits.

Since its establishment, the Commission has trained more than two thousand technicians and professionals from Member States. Funding from OSCE participating States has enabled it to design and develop many capacity building and development activities. The Commission is grateful for the financial support coming from OSCE countries. More importantly, the scientific and technological cooperation and support of many OSCE States is crucial for the Commission.

Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The OSCE participating States are natural partners and allies on the road to entry into force of the Treaty. The voices of the leaders of OSCE States calling for the early entry into force of the CTBT shall resonate far and wide in all corners of the earth. As an organization actively promoting security through cooperation, OSCE's active engagement in facilitating the entry into force of the CTBT can only reinforce its own principles and very foundations. But time is of the essence. The good will and momentum generated recently needs to be met with equally good action.

Thank you