



Statement of
The State of Qatar

By

His Excellency

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Director of the Department of International Organizations and
Conferences

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Before

Ministerial Meeting on the Entry into Force of the CTBT

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Excellencies, co-chairs,

Ladies and gentlemen ,

At the outset I would like to seize this opportunity to congratulate both Indonesia and Hungary for their co-chairmanship of the meeting. I also take this opportunity to express the gratitude of the State of Qatar to both Mexico and Sweden for their efforts over the past two years.

Mr. President,

Today, we are almost nearing the universality of a comprehensive ban on nuclear tests. 183 countries have signed the treaty, 161 countries have ratified it. This can be considered a remarkable achievement over the past decade despite the existence of many challenges, especially if we take into account that the number of countries that have ratified the treaty 10 years ago did not exceed 50 countries. There remains 8 countries that have not ratified the Treaty out of 44 countries with technical capabilities, and whose ratification is needed for entry into force of the treaty. This gives us hope as to the prospects for the entry into force of the Treaty in the years to come.

Mr. President,

The State of Qatar, which enjoy stability , security and good neighborly relations with its neighbors, is looking forward to a world where love between human beings, and peace and tranquility will prevail. The State of Qatar believes that, rather than squandering nuclear materials in weapons that lead to the extermination of the human race, the world would be better off use them in peaceful nuclear reactors that generate electricity, keep the production thriving , remove the salinity of the water to quench the thirst of human beings, animals and plants.

Stemming from this belief, the State of Qatar has supported the CTBT since the first moment, it quickly moved to join it, as it did with other treaties concerning the prohibition of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. President,

We, in the State of Qatar declare our full support for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty, and its effective verification system, which has proved its success, effectiveness and credibility in the monitoring of nuclear tests over the past three years. We are looking forward to the day when the treaty enters into force. In this regard, the State of Qatar spares no effort to persuade countries that have not signed or ratified the treaty to speed up their accession. The State of Qatar does so at bilateral level, as well as in regional or international meetings.

On this occasion, we urge the States that have not yet acceded to the treaty to speed up their accession, and insist on urging the remaining eight countries of the Group of 44 to do so .

Mr. President,

In conclusion, I wish this conference every success and that it will achieve its goals. Let us hope that this conference is the beginning of the last mile to the entry into force of the CTBT, and that we will soon witness this for the good of all mankind.