



**CTBTO**  
PREPARATORY COMMISSION

PUTTING AN  
END TO NUCLEAR  
EXPLOSIONS

## **Key Messaging March 2019**

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### **I. Dialogue is key to strengthen the current nuclear non-proliferation and arms control regime:**

*(If asked about the CTBT, the current political context and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (or ICAN)):*

- A world without nuclear weapons - the goal of the Treaty (TPNW) adopted in 2017 in New York - is an important goal for which to strive. However, we do not yet even have a legally binding agreement to ban the testing of nuclear weapons.
- As highlighted by the Executive Secretary Dr Lassina Zerbo, now is the time to focus on realistic and most achievable steps in achieving a more peaceful and more stable world. We should concentrate on initiatives that unite all states, rather than divide. A legally binding ban on nuclear testing is fundamental for this.
- **Dialogue** is a key factor to progress and strengthen the current nuclear non-proliferation and arms control regime. We must avoid working in silos and should commit to, above all, fully and continuously enforcing the existing global norms.
- The CTBT remains a consensus topic: in the NPT context, in the weapons ban context, and beyond. The CTBT can help bridge the gap between those opposing views.
- The CTBT is non-discriminatory in nature and embodies the principles of mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and coordination, particularly with regard to equality in international security.
- Advancement on the CTBT will help create momentum for additional nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament measures.

### **III. CTBT verification regime helps build global trust and can potentially contribute to the verifiable denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula:**

- Verifiability builds trust. In times of uncertainty when distrust is high, the CTBT offers a way to build and restore trust, offering timely, accurate, “bulletproof” data. The international community knows -- and trusts -- that the CTBTO verification regime works.
- Using remote sensing techniques, the CTBTO accurately detected and characterized all six DPRK announced nuclear tests.

- In addition to detecting nuclear explosions, our systems can help countries to reduce the impact of tsunamis and other natural disasters and benefit scientific research.
- The CTBTO possess the technical and political tools to support efforts for lasting peace and security in the Korean Peninsula. The Organization is constantly verifying remotely and is available, if requested, to provide all necessary assistance to support a transparent and verifiable denuclearization process.
- Executive Secretary Dr Lassina Zerbo has stated that the CTBTO stands ready to make available its **assets and expertise** to **contribute to DPRK denuclearization** efforts, should CTBTO Member States call upon them to do so.
- There are three areas where the **CTBT and its verification can play a constructive role in advancing DPRK denuclearization**: 1) Test Site Closure Activities; 2) Verifying a Nuclear Test Moratorium; and, 3) Signature and eventual Ratification of the CTBT by the DPRK.
- The signature and eventual ratification of the CTBT by the DPRK would be an important step toward denuclearisation of the DPRK.
- After the Hanoi Summit, it is clear that dialogue is key to progress in the denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula. This can be done through greater multilateral engagement on the issue.