

**Working Lunch on the future of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and ways to
advance its entry into force
New York, 29 April, 2015**

**Introductory Remarks by
H.E. Amb. Katalin Annamária Bogay
Permanent Representative of Hungary**

Distinguished Colleagues,

Also on behalf of our co-host, Indonesia, I am delighted to welcome all of you at the Hungarian Mission.

As Article XIV. Co-chairs, Hungary and Indonesia felt that the NPT RevCon could be well-used to have an informal discussion on the future of the CTBT, and ways to advance its entry into force.

We thank our Missions in Vienna for the initiative.

While this event concentrates on the universalization of the CTBT, its links to the NPT process are more evident than ever.

The fact that the CTBT is not yet in force, 19 years after its adoption, is clearly the cause for some of the frustration at the NPT RevCon. The last two years have seen strong, valiant efforts, but relatively small results for universalization.

To turn it around and put a positive spin on it, any visible progress on the CTBT front would also assist the future of the NPT process.

Strong endorsement of CTBT by the NPT RevCon can also help the CTBT process.

We take that this shared understanding is the reason why we have got such a strong response from all of you, despite your busy schedule.

We have an impressive gathering of stakeholders with us from Capitals, from Vienna, Geneva and New York:

- The complete leadership of the NPT Review Conference, with its President, Amb. Ferroukhi and the Main Committee Chairs,
- Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs Ashikbayev of Kazakhstan, representing the future Article XIV Co-chairs,
- CTBTO Executive Secretary Lassina Zerbo and his team,
- Distinguished Members of the GEM (group of eminent persons)
- High level representatives of the nuclear weapon states,
- Including the ones that are not YET ☺ States Parties to the CTBT but have become increasingly supportive of CTBTO.

It also means that you also believe that an honest brainstorming exercise of a select group could be more conducive to finding the way forward.

With that, everything is provided for food for thought, and an interesting discussion.

Time is short, and we want to hear from all of you in order to explore the different angles of the situation. For that, we need this event to be as informal, to the point and interactive, as possible.