



# B E L A R U S

UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
SIXTY-SEVENTH SESSION

SIXTH MINISTERIAL MEETING  
IN SUPPORT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY

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## Written Statement

by His Excellency Vladimir Makei

Minister of Foreign Affairs  
of the Republic of Belarus

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty remains a cornerstone and a universally recognized standard of the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime. This role was reaffirmed once more in the Action Plan on Nuclear Disarmament, adopted by the 2010 NPT Review Conference.

15 years have passed since the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was opened for signature. A significant number of states signed and ratified it. An impressive infrastructure has been created in accordance with the mandate of the Preparatory Commission and within the framework of the Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS), involving precious scientific and technical expertise.

We call upon the Preparatory Commission for the CTBT to further build up the capacities of the International Monitoring System to enable it upon entry into force of that Treaty, to serve as an effective, reliable, participatory and non-discriminatory verification system with global reach, and provide assurance of compliance with that Treaty.

International Monitoring System (IMS) and International Data Centre have proven their effectiveness during nuclear tests announced by the DPRK in 2006 and 2009. Moreover, the capacity of the CTBT verification regime numerously proved to be useful for civil purposes, including in the aftermath of earthquakes and tsunamis in different parts of the world.

Since the time a major CTBT event – Article 14 Conference – was convened here in New York a year ago, we have witnessed some promising signs with respect to bringing the Treaty into force.

The Treaty has continued to approach its universality, with steady increase in the number of signatory states and ratifications. We applaud the states that undertook these important steps. Several countries, including those listed in Annex II of the Treaty, committed themselves to ratify the CTBT or to move towards its ratification. We welcome these commitments and hope they will be translated shortly into concrete actions.

As the first country in the world to voluntarily give up its nuclear arsenal, Belarus was also among the first states to sign the CTBT. Belarus remains a steady and active supporter of all the efforts aimed at the Treaty entering into force.

Therefore we believe that the appeal contained in the Joint Statement urging all states to make maximum efforts towards achieving the early entry into force of the CTBT should be supported by all responsible members of the international community emphatically and unconditionally.

Belarus is intensifying practical cooperation with the CTBTO in various fields, particularly in information exchange with the International Data Center, preparation of inspectors and equipment for on-site inspections. Belarus has a solid potential in form of scientific-technical organizations and research and development, which could be useful for the purposes of CTBTO. We also consider closer cooperation with the organisation as an important factor in the successful implementation of the national nuclear energy programme.

We have already made some important steps down this road. In July this year, the Provisional Technical Secretariat arranged delivery and installation of equipment for upgrading the National Data Center. In September Director of the International Data Center Dr. Zerbo paid a visit to Belarus. Among the events arranged during the visit were the official opening of the National Data Center and convening national seminar with the participation of the PTS experts. Besides, one week ago, an on-site inspection field test of Belarus-made portable radiation scanning equipment was conducted at the Belarusian Polesye Radiation Ecological Reserve with an idea of its utilisation in the CTBTO Integrated Field Exercise to be held in Jordan in 2014 and in future on-site inspections arranged by the PTS. We believe that these activities would constitute a practical contribution of the Republic of Belarus to the implementation of the objectives of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, and assist early completion and provisional operationalisation of the IMS.