

**Strengthening the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and
Its Verification Regime
Remarks by Ambassador Gustavo Zlauvinen
President-Designate of the Tenth NPT RevCon
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Excellencies
Distinguished delegates.
Executive Secretary Zerbo

Thank you for the invitation to speak today in my capacity as President-designate of the Tenth Review Conference of Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. I look forward to contributing to the excellent discussions related to this long-overdue disarmament and non-proliferation goal.

As multilateral treaties dedicated to the pursuit of a world free of nuclear weapons, the NPT and the CTBT are vital organs in the body that is the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime. The two treaties share

and quantitative improvement of nuclear weapons, and its entry into force is almost universally perceived as one of the most important “effective measures” under Article VI.

The symbiosis between these pillars of the disarmament and non-proliferation regime has only deepened with the NPT’s indefinite extension. You will recall that Decision 2 of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference, on the Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, prioritized the negotiation of the CTBT by 1996.

The CTBT has been an important element of every Review Conference outcome since then, as States Parties have rightly recognized the importance of an in force CTBT to the goals of the NPT.

Of the thirteen practical steps in nuclear disarmament agreed by the 2000 Review Conference, the very first stresses “The importance and urgency of signatures and ratifications, without delay and without condition . . . to achieve the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.”

And the 64-point action plan from the 2010 Review Conference contained no less than five actions related to nuclear testing and the CTBT, including its entry into force.

These outcomes from the near universal membership of the NPT are

One of the opportunities presented by the postponement of the Tenth NPT Review Conference has been the ability to conduct expanded and enhanced consultations with States Parties across all three pillars of the NPT with representatives in Geneva, New York and Vienna. It is perhaps

