Governance and Decision-making Process: CTBTO Experience

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Brief introduction

- Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (opened for signature on 24 September 1996) (CTBT)

  Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)

- Resolution Establishing the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO (PrepCom) (adopted on 19 November 1996)

PrepCom

Executive Secretary: Dr Lassina Zerbo
Dr Lassina Zerbo
Context

- Partial Test Ban Treaty (1963) (PTBT)

- Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1970) (NPT)

  
  (1) Indefinite extension of NPT

  (2) ‘The completion by the Conference on Disarmament of the negotiations on a universal and internationally and effectively verifiable Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty no later than 1996.’
Atmospheric and Underground Nuclear Testing
The verification regime

Article IV (1) of the CTBT:

‘In order to verify compliance with this Treaty, a verification regime shall be established consisting of the following elements:

(a) An International Monitoring System;
(b) Consultation and clarification;
(c) On-site inspections; and
(d) Confidence-building measures.

At entry into force of this Treaty, the verification regime shall be capable of meeting the verification requirements of this Treaty.’
CTBT: the verification regime and the Treaty Organization

The verification regime

- International Monitoring System (IMS)
- Consultation and clarification
- On-site inspections (OSI)
- Confidence-building measures

The IMS is supported by the International Data Centre (IDC)
Technical Components

International Monitoring System (IMS)
Build and sustain
- 50 primary seismic
- 120 auxiliary seismic
- 11 hydroacoustic
- 60 infrasound
- 80 radionuclide
- 16 laboratories

International Data Centre (IDC)
collect, analyze, distribute data and products

On-Site Inspections (OSI)
conduct on-site inspections after Entry-into-Force
International Monitoring System
337 Facilities – Nearing Completion

- Seismic Primary Array
- Seismic Primary 3-comp Station
- Seismic Auxiliary Array
- Seismic Auxiliary 3-comp Station
- Hydroacoustic (hydrophone) Station
- Hydroacoustic (T-phase) Station
- Infrasound Station
- Radionuclide Station
- Radionuclide Lab
OSI: AFTER ENTRY-INTO-FORCE

FINAL VERIFICATION MEASURE

Clarifies whether a nuclear explosion has been carried out

Gathers facts to identify violator

Authorized by Executive Council by “green light” mechanism (30/51)

Final judgment lies with Executive Council

IFE 14
Jordan
CTBT: the verification regime and the Treaty Organization

The Treaty Organization: CTBTO

- Conference of the States Parties (all States Parties to the CTBT) (the ‘principal organ’)

- Executive Council (51 members) (the ‘executive organ’)
  Decides on on-site inspections

- Technical Secretariat (including the International Data Centre (IDC))
  Operation of IMS and IDC, and support for OSI
Lessons learned from the negotiation of the CTBT

Organization of the negotiation

- Working Group 1 – verification issues
- Working Group 2 – legal and institutional issues
Lessons learned from the negotiation of the CTBT

Involvement of scientists and technical experts

‘Friends of the Chair’ (of Working Groups)

De-politicization of disagreements
Lessons learned from the negotiation of the CTBT

Substantive issues

(1) Number and location of IMS stations

(2) ‘National technical means’

(3) Role of IDC

(4) OSI: ‘red light’ or ‘green light’

(5) OSI: Executive Council decisions

(6) OSI: rights and obligations of the Inspected State Party

(7) OSI: reporting and taking action
Experience of the CTBTO PrepCom

The experience of the CTBTO PrepCom in preparing for the effective implementation of the CTBT throws much light on the notion of ‘an internationally and effectively verifiable treaty’.
The Resolution for the establishment of a Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO was adopted on 19 November 1996.

All States that have signed the CTBT are members of the PrepCom.

Started functioning early 1997.
Experience of the CTBTO PrepCom

Structure of the PrepCom

• Preparatory Commission (PC)  
  – plenary body

• Working Group A (WGA)  
  – Budgetary and administrative matters

• Working Group B (WGB)  
  – Verification matters

• Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS)
Experience of the CTBTO PrepCom

Rules of procedure

The rule of consensus
Experience of the CTBTO PrepCom

Technical capabilities

• Infrastructure

• Technical expertise

• Organizational development (e.g., Operations Support Centre (OSC) for OSI)
Experience of the CTBTO PrepCom

Legal framework

• Processes and procedures
• Standing arrangements
• Legal support for on-site inspections
Work and achievements of the CTBTO PrepCom

Verification regime in place

• IMS 90% complete

• Fully functional IDC

• Readiness of OSI (Integrated Field Exercise 2014 (IFE14))
Integrated Field Exercise 2014 (IFE14) in Jordan

• The most sophisticated OSI exercise conducted to date by the CTBTO
• Five-week-long field exercise (3 November – 9 December 2014)
• Four years of preparation
• 150 tonnes of specialized equipment
• Over 200 international experts
• Covering an inspection area of nearly 1,000 square kilometres
• Using 15 of the 17 techniques permissible under the CTBT
• Also testing the CTBTO’s elaborate logistical system
Expertise and experience accumulated over 20 years

- Institutional building
- Operation management
- Technical and legal capabilities
- Inter-organizational cooperation and coordination
Work and achievements of the CTBTO PrepCom

Promotion of the CTBT

• Article XIV conferences

• Information and consultation
Entry-into-force

According to Art. XIV

44 Annex 2 States required to ratify

8 remain

Neither signed nor ratified
DPRK
India
Pakistan

Signed but not ratified
China
Egypt
Iran
Israel
USA
Thank you