

**Statement by  
Dr Robert Floyd  
Executive Secretary, Preparatory Commission for the  
Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization**

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the G-77 Vienna Chapter  
Wednesday, 31 May 2023**

---

Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am honoured to deliver this statement on behalf of Dr Robert Floyd, Executive Secretary of the CTBTO. Dr Floyd would have loved to be here but as he was already scheduled to visit some G77 states in Southeast Asia, he was unable to. But I will now read his statement.

**Mr Chairman**

I would like to thank Your Excellency, Ambassador Aftab Ahmad Khoker, Permanent Representative of Pakistan for the kind invitation to take part in this ceremony celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the G-77 and China in Vienna.

The Group of 77 is a powerful and influential organisation. It provides the means for each of its 134 members, regardless of their size, to have a strong voice articulating and promoting their interests in a coordinated body for collective action. I am grateful for the support that the Group provides to the CTBT and its verification regime, which is a key pillar of the global nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation architecture.

The CTBT is now 26 years old, while the G77 Vienna chapter is 25 years now. The two have grown together, and both are stories of success and collaboration.

**Excellencies,**

As we celebrate the Group's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we also reflect on the Group's significant contributions to the Treaty. From the negotiations of the Treaty at the Conference on Disarmament, through to the development of the verification regime and the Secretariat, the Group has played an important and often leading role in shaping the work of CTBTO, and especially in advances towards universalisation. I thank you for that.

Our robust verification regime is at the heart of what we do, and is an invaluable contribution to international security, but in addition, our data can be used by states to advance other national objectives in civil and scientific areas as well.

To ensure our organisation can better serve the interests of all our state signatories from the developing world, I launched the NDCs-4-All initiative last June, as a means of assisting those state signatories who request it, to receive the hardware, software and training required to establish and maintain an NDC. This will help ensure all states can

access all the benefits of treaty membership. I am pleased that several members of the G77 are already taking advantage of the initiative.

Support for and membership of our Treaty continues to grow, and universalisation is within reach. Seven States ratified the Treaty since the start of 2022, six of which were from within this Group, I hope we may expect more soon. This is further evidence of the Group's support for the CTBT, which I greatly appreciate.

As we celebrate the G77's 25th Anniversary, I would like to reiterate the gratitude of the CTBTO for the Group's support and assure you that we will continue to do all we can deliver on the objectives of the Treaty and make sure its benefits are available to all its members.

I am confident that we can continue to rely on your full support

Thank you.