

2017 GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

CANCÚN, MEXICO, 22-26 MAY 2017

**PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY
ORGANIZATION (CTBTO)**

STATEMENT

Chairperson,

Distinguished delegates,

The key mandate of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) is to monitor and detect signs of nuclear explosions. A state of the art network of over 300 monitoring stations worldwide based on four complementary technologies – seismic, infrasound, hydroacoustic and radionuclide – has been built up and is working effectively.

While the establishment of the CTBT verification regime is a prime example of multilateralism in arms control, the International Monitoring System (IMS) has also proved to be of great value in disaster risk reduction.

Data generated by the IMS is used in the provision of critical information on nuclear accidents, including measurements of radioactivity and the dispersion of radioactivity; the rapid acquisition and dissemination of data on earthquakes, in particular on potentially tsunami-generating earthquakes; and the detection of man-made and natural events on the Earth's surface, including chemical explosions, meteoroids entering the atmosphere, and severe storm systems.

IMS data has also proved useful to civil aviation through early detection of volcano eruptions and tracking the path of resulting ash plumes.

As a member of the United Nations system, the CTBTO plays an active part in relevant system-wide mechanisms including the Inter-Agency Committee on Radiological and Nuclear Emergencies (IACRNE), and has integrated the goals of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and the associated UN Plan of Action into its strategic planning framework.

We invite all participants in the Global Platform to learn more about the CTBTO's role in support of disaster risk reduction by visiting our information booth.

As the implementation of Sendai gathers pace, we stand ready to bring the benefit of our unique monitoring system to all partners in reducing disaster risk.

Thank you.