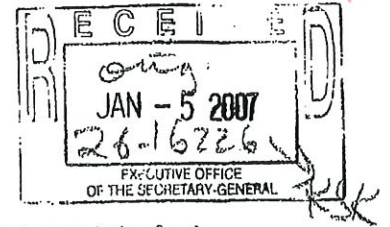


UNPT



CTBTO

PREPARATORY COMMISSION

preparatory commission for the
comprehensive nuclear-test-ban
treaty organization

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22 December 2006

Excellency,

On the occasion of the tribute paid to you by the General Assembly as Secretary General of the United Nations for the past ten years, I have the honour to express my deepest gratitude for the support you have given to the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO as well as your steadfast dedication in promoting the universality of the Treaty.

In that context, I recall your wise words in relation to the Treaty which have been quoted time and again in our texts: *"This Treaty is a crucial element in the non-proliferation regime. The longer we delay its entry into force, the greater the risk that nuclear testing will resume - and that in turn would make non-proliferation much harder to sustain."* (November 2001). This still holds true. Over the years, the Commission can count itself as very fortunate for having had the opportunity to cooperate closely with you. Your personal participation in the 'Article XIV Conferences' held in New York was highly appreciated.

Under your tenure, the Commission has been able to build strong ties with the United Nations. Today, thanks to the adoption by the General Assembly in June 2000 of the Agreement regulating the relationship between the United Nations and the Commission, interaction between the two organizations has broadened and intensified.

Allow me once again to express sincere thanks for your strong support and to wish you all the very best in your future endeavours.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Tibor Tóth
Executive Secretary

His Excellency
Mr Kofi Annan
Secretary-General
United Nations
New York

