

T5.4-P7

Abstract

Globally, one of the foremost multilateral treaties established by the United Nations (UN) to verify nuclear explosion activities around the world is the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). The Treaty bans any nuclear explosions anywhere by anyone on the planet. Compliance to the nuclear test ban requires understanding of the Treaty's relevance and contribution to international peace and security. CTBT educational materials as a source of information are available on the CTBTO web-portals, give focus on "building and maintaining the necessary awareness and capacity in the technical, scientific, legal and political aspects of the Treaty and its verification regime" for enriched knowledge. These educational materials are accessible to technical staff and the public through various e-learning courses and programmes that serve as useful tools to provide the requisite knowledge and understanding of the Treaty issues. Regular participation in CTBTO organized courses such as 2013 Diplomacy and Public Policy; 2012 Intensive Policy; 2011 Advanced Science; and 2011 CTBT Introductory, helped to sensitize and stimulate broader understanding of the Treaty and its verification regime which aided the successful conducts of internal training at NDC-Ghana.

Introduction

Non-proliferation Treaty on nuclear explosions such as the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) requires considerable international cooperation for it to succeed. Such cooperation from Member States is crucial if the Treaty's universal acceptance and eventual entry into force is to be achieved within the shortest possible time. This is because nuclear proliferation and its destructive consequences is not and cannot be left as the responsibility of any single nation, as such a global problem [1]. Therefore international cooperation is the way to combat it. CTBT is globally one of the foremost multilateral treaties established by the United Nations (UN) for the purpose of verifying nuclear explosion activities around the world. The Treaty bans any nuclear explosions anywhere by anyone on the planet. Its compliance requires understanding of the Treaty's relevance and contribution to international peace and security. Hence, CTBTO's provision of easily comprehensible educational materials on the CTBT.

Importance of CTBT Education and Training to Disarmament and Non-Proliferation

The importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education (DNPE) is well acknowledged and established by the United Nations (UN). For instance, the importance of DNP education was highlighted in the NPT 2010 Review Conference Final Document, in Paragraph 96 under Article VI of the Review of the operation of the Treaty, "the Conference underscores the importance of disarmament and non-proliferation education as a useful and effective means to advance the goals of the Treaty in support of achieving a world without nuclear weapons" [2]. CTBTO recognizes the importance role education plays in this non-proliferation issues, hence, has taken up the task to aggressively champion and address it through its numerous education and training programmes.

Enhancing Public Knowledge of the CTBT Through Education

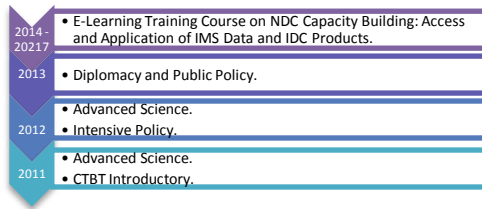
The CTBTO is championing nuclear non-proliferation education to bring to public knowledge the ban on nuclear test and its verification regime, and particularly to encourage the young generation's involvement in its activities. To promote the CTBT, you will need the active engagement of young generation such as students and young graduates. Their involvement is an essential contribution towards global peace and security, and vital to advancing the Treaty's entry into force. Public sensitization programmes are some of the key ways of improving public knowledge and understanding of the crucial matters relevant to the CTBT's establishment (Fig.1). Thus, creating increased awareness to promote the Treaty's universal acceptance and entry into force.



Fig. 1 Sensitization activities for students in Ghana.

CTBT Education Resources

The educational materials at the CTBTO are resources "focused on building and maintaining the necessary awareness and capacity in the technical, scientific, legal and political aspects of the Treaty and its verification regime" [3]. CTBT educational materials are available on the CTBTO web-portals on the varied subject areas listed above. These materials serve as a useful tools to provide the requisite knowledge and enhance the understanding of the Treaty issues. The specialized education courses offered by CTBTO utilizing online learning and new media have exposed the general public to relevant issues fundamental to the Treaty and its verification regime. Regularly participated in CTBTO organized courses.



List of some CTBTO organized courses Ghana has participated in.

Conclusion

Compliance to the nuclear test ban requires understanding of the Treaty's relevance and contribution to international peace and security. This can be achieved through targeted and effective education of the global community to promote the goals of the CTBT in support of achieving a world free of nuclear weapons. With the global community been the ultimate beneficiary of its peaceful outcome. Regular participation in CTBTO organized courses helped to sensitize and stimulate broader understanding of the Treaty and its verification regime which aided the successful conducts of internal trainings and public sensitization in Ghana.

References :

- [1] U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, *Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction: Assessing the Risk*, OTA-ISC-559 (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, August 1993).
- [2] 2010 Review Conference of Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document , vol. 1 (NPT/CONF.2010/50).
- [3] <https://www.ctbto.org/specials/ctbt-educational-resources/>