



## Background

Since it voluntarily renounced its nuclear weapons programme followed by international disarmament interventions such as the Principles and Objectives for Nuclear Non-Proliferation Disarmament document at the 1995 NPT RevCon, which led to the indefinite life of the NPT and encouraged the Conference of Disarmament to finalise the language on the CTBT text, South Africa has always shown support to non-proliferation and disarmament policies.

South Africa has been a regional training centre for the OPCW Assistance and Protection Course and the Analytical Chemistry Course, which are both held annually, since 2005.



## CTBT training

After ratifying the CTBT in 1999, there were considerations of designating the country as a training centre in the region.

Using the experience gained from hosting the OPCW courses, the country is considering resuscitating the discussions on the country regularly hosting the CTBT training interventions.

The country has been hosting the CTBT training interventions on an intermittent basis, since the December 1995, culminating in the recent Advance Course of the On Site Inspection Third Training Cycle in October 2018.

**Venue:-** Denel Overberg Test Range has received praise for the amenities that it provides as a training venue and its location relative to the CTBT simulated training interventions.

**Logistics:-** Cape Town, where the Test Range is located, is gradually attracting direct international flights into its airport.

**Technologies:-** South Africa is designated to host 4 waveform stations, 1 radionuclide station and 1 radionuclide laboratory as part of the IMS network. Further, with three hydroacoustic lines covering the coastline of South Africa, there is quite a spectra of technologies that the CTBT could use in its curriculum content for the training interventions.

**Government Support:-** South Africa, through the Non-Proliferation Council and other government institutions, is supporting the full implementation of the CTBT. This allows for easier Customs clearance of CTBT consignments, speedy issuance of visas to participants, providing in kind donation to the training, and provision of privileges and immunities to officials of the CTBT on an official mission to South Africa.



## Conclusion

South Africa has gained enormous experience in hosting the OPCW courses and providing training through its experts from the South African Military Health Services and Protechnik Laboratories personnel. The country sees an opportunity for the CTBT to establish a training centre in the south and utilise the facility at OTB which boost state of the art facilities for the CTBT simulated training interventions. Gradual build up of skills of South African NDC personnel could lead to future training being conducted by the locals.