

**Input for the Secretary-General Report on
Disarmament and Non-proliferation Education: June 2024 – May 2026**

**Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty
Organization**

Executive Summary

Throughout the reporting period, the Commission strengthened its outreach, education, and capacity-building activities in support of the Treaty's entry into force and the verification regime. The Knowledge and Training Portal (KTP) was updated in July 2024, as well as the e-learning module on CTBT hosted by UNODA in July 2025. Collaboration with UNODA continued through CTBTO segments of the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship Programme held in June 2024 and April 2025, and active involvement of the CTBTO Youth Group (CYG) furthered efforts in disarmament and non-proliferation education. The eight Science and Technology Conference was convened in Vienna from 8 to 12 September 2025 and the CYG continued its active engagement in support of the Treaty with different youth-related activities and initiatives, such as the pilot project "Be the Voice of SnT2025" to engage young digital creators in promoting the conference. CYG members also participated in different high-level events, such as the 10th Anniversary Celebration of UNSCR 2250 on the Youth, Peace and Security Agenda, organized in cooperation with other Vienna-based organizations, including UNODA. The fourth and fifth editions of the CTBTO Research Fellowship took place over this period, engaging 59 young professionals and resulting in published research papers. The CTBTO Mentoring Programme for early-career women in STEM completed four successful cycles and launched a fifth in May 2026. The fifth cycle paired 50 mentees from all six geographical regions with experts from CTBTO technical divisions and national institutions. Lastly, the Commission regularly engages with members of delegations, students, and representatives of various organizations by organizing visits to its premises

Throughout the reporting period, the Commission organized in-person introductory courses on CTBT and its verification technologies and applications. This included three workshops targeting diplomats in Vienna (October 2024, October 2025), and Kingston (April 2025). The CTBTO's Knowledge and Training Portal (KTP), an e-learning platform serving the online training, education and outreach needs of the global disarmament and non-proliferation community, was updated in July 2024. The Commission continued the collaboration with the UNODA Office in Vienna to update the existing e-learning modules on the CTBT and the CTBTO hosted by UNODA in July 2025.

During the reporting period, the Commission also supported the participation of 31 technical experts from 28 developing countries in official technical meetings of the Preparatory Commission through its Technical Experts Support Programme (TESP). Since its inception in 2007, the TESP has supported 110 experts of (73 men and 37 women), from 59 States Signatories.

As part of its long-standing collaboration with UNODA, the Commission welcomed Fellows from the UN Disarmament Fellowship Programme in June 2024 and April 2025, with a further session planned for July 2026. During the CTBTO segment, the Fellows actively explored the political, legal and

technical aspects of the Treaty and had the opportunity to meet and interact with the Executive Secretary.

In April 2025, a youth representative from the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region was invited to speak on a panel at the CTBTO Regional Workshop for States Signatories of the LAC Region, where she shared her perspectives on youth engagement and the role of the CTBT.

In May 2025, the Commission nominated and sponsored one CYG member to participate in the inaugural UN Youth4Disarmament Forum, organized by UNODA, which took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 16 to 17 October 2025, in conjunction with the General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament, Peace and Security.

The eighth Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Science and Technology Conference was convened in Vienna from 8 to 12 September 2025 to broaden the community engaged in test-ban monitoring and promote the wider civil and scientific applications of the verification regime. The conference brought scientists, academics, and high-level officials together in a hybrid format to review the verification regime's performance and explore scientific and technological advances in nuclear test monitoring.

During the conference, 81 CYG members registered, with 35 actively participating in youth-dedicated sessions. CYG representatives participated in high-level panels, including the EU session, and a networking event, fostering youth engagement and knowledge exchange. The Commission supported 4 members in presenting scientific abstracts and funded 6 young content creators to cover the event as part of the pilot project “Be the Voice of SnT2025” to promote it to youth audiences.

The fourth and fifth cycles of the CTBTO Research Fellowship were organized during the reporting period. These included 59 young professionals representing the new generation of nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament experts. The fellows followed a series of online webinars centered around CTBT with prominent experts and officials, as well as conducting and publishing research on CTBT-related issues. In total, 10 research papers on CTBT-related issues will be published on the CYG website.

The Commission participated in an event hosted by VCDNP on *Engagement Opportunities in Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation for Young Professionals and Students* (7 November 2025) and UNODA for the Primakov Centre Students visit (7 Nov 2025).

On 14 November 2025, the Commission hosted 55 participants from the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Scholarship for Peace and Security Programme for a briefing on the CTBTO's mandate and activities, as well as opportunities youth engagement through the CTBTO Mentoring Programme and the CYG. The briefing helped strengthen cooperation with OSCE disarmament education initiatives by raising awareness among young professionals and emerging leaders in the field.

On 9 December 2025, the Commission and UNODA co-led a panel to commemorate the 10th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015) under the theme “Underscoring youth

voices and disarmament in the Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) Agenda”, organized in cooperation with the Vienna-based organizations (UNODC, UNODA, UNOOSA, UNIDO and the IAEA).

On 8 May 2026, the Commission, in cooperation with the UN-Nuclear Young Generation, hosted an event entitled “Talk to the ES: Dr. Floyd”. The interactive session provided the opportunity for over 50 young professionals to exchange with the Executive Secretary.

The Commission launched the CTBTO Mentoring Programme, in September 2022, to promote development opportunities for early-career women in STEM, nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, especially those from under-represented geographical regions. The programme aims to support improved gender and geographical representation, and the empowerment of the next generation. Four cycles of the programme have successfully been completed, with the fifth cycle currently ongoing. In the third iteration of the programme (May – September 2024), 26 mentees from all six CTBT geographical regions were selected to participate. In a new pilot initiative, the mentees were paired online with experts from National Data Centres and national laboratories of States Signatories that contribute to the work of the Commission, along with the experts from the CTBTO’s technical divisions. In the fourth cycle of the programme, which commenced in May 2025, 40 mentees from all six CTBT geographical regions were selected to participate. Two new initiatives were piloted, introducing in-person mentoring sessions for pairs based in the same locations, and pairing mentees with mentors who speak their native language in support of multilingualism and fostering deeper understanding. As a result, there were three in-person mentoring pairs and three multilingual pairs during this cycle.

Lastly, the Commission regularly hosted members of delegations, students, and representatives of various organizations at its premises, providing an overview of CTBTO’s work, including visits to the International Data Centre and presentations on the International Monitoring System. In total, 42 visits were organized during the reporting period.