Mr. Chairperson,

It is an honor to take the floor on behalf of Australia, New Zealand and my own country, Mexico, co-authors of the resolution on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), which is tabled annually.

The cessation of all nuclear weapon test explosions and all other nuclear explosions would constrain the development and qualitative improvement of nuclear weapons and would end the development of advanced new types of nuclear weapons.

A globally verifiable ban on nuclear testing would therefore be an essential step towards a world free of nuclear weapons. This was the spirit that guided the international community to the conception, negotiation and conclusion of a universal and internationally and effectively verifiable Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.
Today, fifteen years after it was opened for signature, the positive, norm-setting impact of the CTBT is without question. Although the Treaty has not yet entered into force, all 182 State Signatories have abstained from nuclear explosive testing.

Those countries that have remained outside of the Treaty and have performed tests have faced universal condemnation. We note with satisfaction that 155 states, including all of the nuclear-capable countries from Europe and Latin America, have ratified the CTBT. We welcome, especially, the recent ratifications by Guinea and Ghana. Every new ratification constitutes a powerful signal to the international community and to States that have yet to ratify.

But in order to achieve its purpose, the Treaty needs to enter into force, and this must happen without any further delay. This was reinforced strongly in the call contained in the Final Declaration adopted by the seventh Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York last 23 September 2011, which was co-chaired by Mexico and Sweden.

We welcome the steps taken by Indonesia and the commitment made by the US in pursuit of the Treaty’s ratification. We urge those States that have not yet adhered to or ratified the CTBT, especially those whose signatures and ratifications are necessary for the entry into force of the Treaty, to sign and ratify the Treaty without delay in order to achieve its entry into force.

martes, 18 de octubre de 2011
We warmly welcome the support for the Treaty and its entry into force expressed by the Secretary-General, the Security Council Summit, the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and the General Assembly over many years. We hope this support will be expressed once again in the positive consideration of our resolution by this 66th General Assembly.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.