

(Mr. Dubois, Canada)

A number of other verification methodologies which have emerged in the past few years clearly have relevance to verifying a CTBT. Canada will continue to support the CD in its exploration of these methodologies and consider making further submissions on selected ones.

Canada supports continued exploration in the CD of on-site inspections for CTBT verification. "Challenge" inspections, and perhaps in some special cases routine and close-out inspections, are needed for effective CTBT verification.

To conclude, it is worth emphasizing that, except perhaps with respect to work on an international seismic data exchange network, we are still in the early phase of our efforts to redefine a viable and effective verification package for a CTBT. We all recognize that the seismic data exchange network will likely form the core verification method for a CTBT. In Canada's view, other methods also have a valuable contribution to make for test ban verification. To the credit of Sweden, its draft treaty underlines the value of using a variety of complementary verification methods. Operating synergistically, such a package of methods can provide the most cost-effective approach to CTBT verification in the long run. We must concentrate on constructing a verification system that will stand the test of time. It must be flexible enough to adapt to new circumstances such as the advent of new verification requirements and methodologies. It must be resilient enough to withstand heightened political tensions; indeed, it must provide a bulwark for refuting inaccurate suspicions about violations that might exacerbate tensions.

Mr. ROTH (Sweden): As has been referred to and eloquently elaborated upon by several speakers here today, on this very day 30 years have elapsed since the signing of the partial test-ban Treaty. In the preambular part of that Treaty, the Parties to the Treaty agree to seek to achieve the discontinuance of all test explosions of nuclear weapons for all time. Now, 30 years after signing, negotiations on a comprehensive test ban have still not begun. However, developments recently give us concrete hope that in fact such negotiations will soon take place. As my country has consistently advocated a comprehensive test ban, my delegation warmly welcomes the extension of the moratoria and the positive stance towards negotiations on a comprehensive test ban that has emerged lately. Now, it is important not to lose momentum but use the positive atmosphere to commence negotiations on a CTB treaty.