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There is another dimension to the nuclear-testing issue. This is the continuation of nuclear testing in the atmosphere by two nuclear powers. The possibility of being exposed to radioactive fall-out from these tests has created a sense of deep apprehension among peoples of many countries, and this has provoked insistent demands from round the world that this kind of testing in particular must stop. My Government once again calls on the nuclear powers concerned to reconsider their position on the Partial Test-Ban Treaty (PTB) and to abandon this particularly objectionable kind of nuclear testing.

Briefly then, non-nuclear states have done all they can in the CCD and outside to bring about an end to testing. It is up to the nuclear powers. Three of these nuclear powers have repeatedly pledged -- in the Partial Test-Ban Treaty, in the Non-Proliferation Treaty, and in numerous statements -- that their objective is an agreement on the cessation of all nuclear-weapon tests; we should like to believe that great powers do not make such commitments lightly.

In this situation, it seems to a number of delegations, including my own, that the step the Assembly should take this year -- the tenth anniversary of the PTB -- is to unite in the adoption of a simple but sharp resolution reiterating in the clearest possible terms its determination that nuclear testing in all environments should be brought to an end. (We hope to join a number of other delegations in tabling a resolution to this effect.) Of course, our message is not new, but we cannot fail to remind the nuclear-testing powers of our firm and continuing expectation that they will take measures aimed at halting the nuclear-arms race. (I shall have more to say on this subject when the Committee debates the draft resolution to which I referred a moment ago.)

It is clear that the nuclear-testing issue is closely linked to attempts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons that find their embodiment in the NPT. This important agreement, multilateral in nature, seeks to reduce the danger of nuclear war by restricting the number of states that have access to nuclear weapons to those that possessed them at the time the treaty came into force in 1970. Non-nuclear-weapons states which adhere to the treaty recognize that it is not in their interest to possess nuclear arms, but their right to benefit fully from advances in peaceful, nuclear technology is guaranteed. To date some 80 countries have adhered to this treaty, reflecting a collective judgment that such an agreement must be in the interests of the whole world community. We must not forget, however, that several countries with advanced nuclear technology still have not ratified the treaty or concluded safeguard

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