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Non-Ratifying Non-Annex 2 States: What Are the Reasons for Delay? Examples of Nepal, Somalia and Yemen

The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), established to prohibit all nuclear test explosions, stands as a pivotal framework in the global disarmament and non-proliferation regime. However, while the treaty has earned considerable support internationally, this three Signatory Non-Annex 2 States have yet to ratify it, raising questions about the underlying reasons for this delay. In this paper, the authors will explore the obstacles and difficulties that stand in the way of the three Non-Annex 2 States, which have not been able to ratify the CTBT. These countries are often characterized as facing a complex interplay of political instability, financial issues, and security concerns, with domestic priorities often overshadowing international commitments. For example, in Somalia and Yemen, ongoing conflicts exacerbate the challenges associated with the treaty ratification, diverting governmental focus and resources. In turn, Nepal's socio-political landscape presents its own set of challenges that complicate and delay the ratification process. This paper aims to explore the multifaceted factors that block progress toward CTBT ratification among these states, illuminating the broader implications for internal and external constraints. By addressing and tackling these challenges, the Preparatory Commission for CTBTO could facilitate both the entry into force of the treaty and its subsequent successful implementation.

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