Verification Related Training Activities
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Introduction

The Preparatory Commission offers States training courses and workshops in IMS, IDC and OSI technologies, thereby assisting in the upgrading of national scientific capacities in related areas.

IMS AND IDC TRAINING ACTIVITIES

In 2006, three training courses were jointly organized by the IMS and IDC Divisions: one joint IMS–IDC introductory training programme (Vienna in May) and two joint IMS–IDC regional technical training programmes (Cairo in June and Mexico City in July–August). The two regional courses included a special programme for station operators and NDC staff. A total of 33 station operators and 43 NDC managers from 48 States Signatories participated in these courses.

Three IMS technical training programmes were held in 2006, two of them for radionuclide station operators (Seibersdorf, Austria, in May and Oak Ridge, Tennessee, USA, in June) and one for seismic station operators (Trafelberg, Austria, in November). Altogether 22 station operators from 17 States Signatories participated in the activities.

Eleven NDC technical staff members from eight States Signatories participated in an IDC regional training course in Zagreb, Croatia, in September. An IDC advanced training course was held for NDC technical staff in Vienna in December with the main purpose of familiarizing the 16 participants with the advanced features of the NDC in a box software package.

OSI TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The PTS continued with the development of the Long Range Plan for the training and exercise programme for future inspectors.

In 2006, the first cycle of experimental conduct of the elements of this programme finished with the seventh OSI Experimental Advanced Course, which was hosted by Croatia and held in Slunj in July 2006, with 13 participants from 10 States Signatories. Its aim was to develop a curriculum for the advanced course for the logistics/administration sub-team based on the Long Range Plan.

The OSI Introductory Course IC10 was conducted with 24 participants from 21 States Signatories in May 2006 in Vienna as a special outreach activity for staff of Permanent Missions of States Signatories with the aim to familiarize experts from States Signatories with the OSI regime and its development. IC11 was conducted with 32 participants from 15 States Signatories of the
Eastern Europe geographical region in October 2006 in Baku, Azerbaijan, as a special outreach activity for States Signatories in this region.

**E-LEARNING**

The pilot phase of a project to provide ‘e-learning’ opportunities to the States Signatories was completed. The purpose of the project is to broaden the participation in the PTS training programme to ensure the development and operation of the verification system elements. During the pilot phase, an e-learning strategy was developed, e-learning technologies were investigated and suppliers were identified. Terms of reference were developed and a supplier will be chosen to prepare the infrastructure and to start developing training material.

The development of e-learning modules for OSI training was enhanced during 2006 with the aim of using some modules for the training of the participants in the IFE. Four subjects were under development: introduction to OSI, OSI overflight, OSI seismic simulation and OSI Test Manual familiarization.