

Seminar on CTBT...

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Yoshio Fukao, a Japanese seismologist, underlined the advantages of linking global and regional networks in the field of seismic tomography, a technique of taking pictures of the earth's interior using seismic waves. Among other examples, he demonstrated the effect of atmospheric and oceanic loading, and seasonal variations thereof, on the earth's free oscillations. "We anticipate a great contribution of the CTBT network to understand the

phenomena involving the atmosphere, ocean and solid earth," he said.

Around 150 representatives of States, non-governmental organizations and the media participated in the seminar. ■

Operation and maintenance...

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Evaluation, Procurement, Financial and Legal Services Sections. O&M coordination consists of five functional areas: Operations, Engineering, Planning, Contract Management and Training. Operations is responsible for the development and implementation of common operational procedures, monitoring of station performance and evaluating operational, logistical and maintenance problems. Engineering and Planning develops an integrated network database to store and manage information relevant to IMS and Global Communications Infrastructure (GCI) station configuration management. The Contract Management group is in charge of managing O&M contract

implementation and finally, the Training Coordinator defines training programmes and oversees training workshops for station and site operators.

Except for the auxiliary seismic stations, which are operated with national funds, the PTS is expected to pay for the O&M once a station is certified. Operation and maintenance usually starts a few months before the station is certified, under testing and evaluation, to demonstrate that the station is performing well. Certification is therefore an important step for the host country, as a local technical institution will be engaged under contract with the PTS to operate and maintain the station. ■

Calendar of Meetings 2004

Preparatory Commission:

22nd Session 22 - 25 June 2004
23rd Session 15 - 19 November 2004

Working Group A:

25th Session 7 - 11 June 2004
26th Session 4 - 8 October 2004

Working Group B:

22nd Session 9 - 27 February 2004
23rd Session I 24 May - 4 June 2004
23rd Session II 30 August - 10 Sept. 2004

Advisory Group:

22nd Session I 19 - 23 April 2004
22nd Session II 17 - 21 May 2004
23rd Session 13 - 17 September 2004

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