

# Outreach activities

*The PTS conducts a variety of activities focusing on enhancing the Treaty understanding of decision-makers and the general public, generating political support, encouraging international cooperation and building national technical capacities through training.*

## International cooperation

The Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) regularly organizes international cooperation activities to promote cooperation among States through information exchange and to contribute to national capacity building. In December 2003, an international cooperation workshop was held for the States from South-East Asia in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) with 23 participants from eight countries. April 2004 saw an international cooperation workshop take place in Tunis (Tunisia), with 35 participants from six States from Northern Africa.

The PTS also assisted in the organization of National Awareness Seminars on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, organized by the Government of Viet Nam in Hanoi, in December 2003, and by the Government of Suriname in Paramaribo, in March 2004. Each of the seminars was attended by about 50 participants representing relevant Ministries and technical institutions in the two countries. The objectives of the seminars were to enhance understanding of the significance of the CTBT and to facilitate its ratification. The Governments of Norway and the Netherlands provided financial assistance for the organization of these seminars. ■

## External relations

The Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region plays an important role in ensuring the entry into force of the CTBT and the build-up of the verification regime. Twenty-one LAC States signed the Treaty when it opened for signature in 1996, and today, the number of signatures has reached 27, with ratifications standing at 20. Under the terms of the Treaty, 43 International Monitoring Facilities (IMS) are located in 13 Latin American countries.

Numerous bi-and multilateral activities have been undertaken to promote the Treaty within the region. The first IMS Introductory Training Programme was hosted by Argentina in 1997, and the Executive Secretary visits the LAC region regularly. Two regional CTBTO workshops were organized in Peru and Jamaica in 2000 and 2002 respectively, to facilitate information exchange and to examine ways and means to promote regional cooperation.

All States in the Latin American and Caribbean region are parties to the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelolco for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean. In several international fora, the LAC States have expressed their commitment to non-proliferation and disarmament, and their willingness to contribute to the early entry into force and universality of the Treaty. During the General Conferences of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL) in 2001 and 2003, various resolutions in support of the CTBT were approved. OPANAL also concluded a cooperation agreement with CTBTO in September 2002 to support the effective implementation of the CTBT. The General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) has approved resolutions in support of the CTBT every year since 2000. ■

## Training



TRAINEE LOOKING AT A GURALP CMG-3T THREE-COMPONENT BROADBAND SEISMOMETER

Following the interest shown by States Signatories in training, the PTS adopted a new training policy focusing on courses and workshops conducted jointly by the PTS major programmes. An example of this new policy is the regional training courses offered in cooperation between the IMS and the International Data Centre. In 2004, these courses are planned for the Russian Federation, covering Eastern Europe, and Venezuela, covering the Latin America and Caribbean region.



JOINT IMS/IDC REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP, CARACAS, VENEZUELA

The courses offer training both in station operation and in technical National Data Centre issues and are thus well suited for the many institutes responsible for both tasks. This new approach will also facilitate the spread of technological knowledge, information exchange and cooperation on a regional level. ■