

Treaty Status

Signatures	174
Ratifications	120
Annex 2 Ratifications	33

AS OF 7 DECEMBER 2004

Challenges of establishing IMS stations...

continued from page 13

To install the seismic system for the T-phase station, a boat was necessary. The commander of the naval base provided the mission with a boat, as well as three soldiers. These soldiers managed to land on the shore, where the unloading of the delicate equipment was done with great care. Then the navy boat departed, intending to leave the IMS installation team on their own for the next three days.

The IMS team had to carry the seismic equipment on their shoulders up a steep hill before installation could start. They worked steadily until the evening of the following day, when big clouds started to cover the

horizon. Unfamiliar with local weather conditions, the installation team continued their activity. Suddenly the navy boat came back. The soldiers rushed everybody to pack their belongings and relevant equipment as quickly as possible, and evacuated the entire IMS team. The boat made a rough crossing back to the naval base just in time to avoid the tropical storm which was bearing down on the island. Had the team remained at the site, their likelihood of surviving the heavy winds without injury would have been very slim. As soon as the winds eased, the installation team returned to the site to test the functionality of the equipment. Remarkably, it had survived the storm. ■

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Calendar of Meetings 2005

Preparatory Commission:

24th Session	27 – 30 June 2005
25th Session	14 – 18 November 2005

Working Group A:

27th Session	6 – 10 June 2005
28th Session	3 – 7 October 2005

Working Group B:

24th Session	14 Feb. – 4 March 2005
25th Session I	23 May – 3 June 2005
25th Session II	29 August – 9 Sept. 2005

Advisory Group:

24th Session I	18 – 23 April 2005
24th Session II	17 – 20 May 2005
25th Session	12 – 16 September 2005

PUBLISHED BY :

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CTBTO Spectrum – ISSN: 1680-533X

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Printed in Austria, December 2004