

Canada Hosts Seismic Experts Workshop



Participants in the Group of Scientific Experts November workshop at Montebello.

The Russian, French and American nuclear testing moratoria, reinforced by a US Congressional call for a comprehensive test ban (CTB) by 1996, provided fitting backdrop for a November 17 to 22 workshop sponsored by EAITC's Verification Research Program and hosted by Energy, Mines and Resources Canada. Seismic experts from 19 countries gathered at Montebello, Quebec, for the first significant discussions to focus primarily on the design and implementation of a global monitor-

ing system for verification of a CTB. Participants were members of the Conference on Disarmament's Group of Scientific Experts (GSE), which recently completed a comprehensive multi-year experiment involving the world-wide exchange and processing of seismic data. As a result of this test, the GSE concluded that the development of a global seismic network to provide adequate verification of compliance with a CTB is technically feasible.

At Montebello, the experts explored

practical aspects of a global monitoring system. These included issues related to design and selection of, and communications and interactions between, national seismic data centres with the intent of establishing an International Data Centre for CTB verification. Concepts for a global system and related costs were also addressed. The workshop followed on Prime Minister Mulroney's recent reaffirmation of a CTB as a Canadian priority, and aimed to assist the GSE with its mandate to make expeditious progress in the next Conference on Disarmament session. ■

Cooperative Security Programs Established

On July 27, Secretary of State for External Affairs Barbara McDougall announced the establishment of the Cooperative Security Competition Program with an annual budget of \$2.1 million. The program will provide financial assistance for projects that advance understanding, knowledge and public discussion of cooperative security issues. Mrs. McDougall also announced the establishment of a Cooperative Security Scholarship Program of \$200,000 per year.

"The Government of Canada firmly believes that international peace and security is dependent on fostering bilateral and multilateral dialogue and cooperation across the entire range of interstate relations," said Mrs. McDougall. "These pro-

grams will allow us to assist scholarship and projects that increase Canadian and international understanding of cooperative security and promote its practical implementation."

Establishment of the programs follows through on the government's February 1992 budget commitment to reduce expenditure. Some continuing resources have been transferred from the now-closed Canadian Institute for International Peace and Security (CIIPS) to EAITC. The Competition Program also incorporates monies previously allocated to EAITC's Disarmament Fund. The termination and consolidation of programs will result in significant savings.

Mrs. McDougall further announced that

CIIPS' library collection and associated database are being transferred to the Canadian Forces Command and Staff College in Toronto. The College will maintain and develop the collection, and will ensure that scholars and the interested public continue to have access to the library.

Examples of projects eligible for assistance from the Competition Program include research, publications, conferences and seminars. Application deadlines are April 30 for an August decision and October 31 for a February decision. For further information and an application form, contact the Cooperative Security Competition Program, 55 Metcalfe Street, Suite 1180, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 6L5 (tel: 613-233-4448; fax: 613-238-2062). ■