

Ad Hoc Working Group during its 1984 session;

(b) to determine, in the context of its negotiations on such a treaty, the institutional and administrative arrangements necessary for establishing testing and operating an international seismic monitoring network as part of an effective verification system; and

(c) to initiate investigation of other international measures to improve verification arrangements under such a treaty including an international network to monitor atmospheric radioactivity.

Our position is quite clear. We believe that there are many issues relating to a comprehensive test ban that deserve immediate consideration, and that positive progress can be achieved on some, even if hesitations remain on others. We also believe there will be widespread concern, disappointment and frustration if the Conference on Disarmament meets for another year without beginning this process. As in the United Nations General Assembly resolution, we urge all members of the Conference on Disarmament, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to co-operate with the Conference in fulfilling these tasks.

CD/PV.257

pp.20-22

Sweden/Ekeus

10.4.84

CTB

International discussions of a global seismological verification system over many years have illustrated both the desire, and the difficulties, to obtain a generally accepted international verification system for a comprehensive test-ban treaty. In this context the international co-operation measures worked out by the Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts constitute however an important step towards the achievement of an internationally acceptable system.

The Third Report of the Ad Hoc Group (CD/448) is a considerable achievement. An impressive amount of work has been carried out by the Group's experts and at observatories, laboratories and data centres in the participating countries. It might be difficult for us to understand and fully to appreciate the vast amount of scientific work in many countries that forms the basis for this report.

The Report contains a large amount of facts and information that deserves close consideration. My delegation shares the Ad Hoc Group's view that a significant technical development has taken place in the last few years and that it is important to fully incorporate this new technology into the proposed global system of exchanging seismic data.

The conversion of existing analogue stations relevant for CTB verification into digital systems and the establishment of new and highly sensitive stations at suitable locations in the Southern Hemisphere are important steps recommended by the Ad Hoc Group. Working Paper CD/491 presented by the Federal Republic of Germany on "Aspects of modern developments in seismic event recording techniques" contains a sound basis for a discussion of how advanced technology can be used to improve and simplify seismic recording. Concerning the establishment of new, high-quality stations in the Southern Hemisphere, Sweden has earlier introduced in the Committee on Disarmament the idea of so-called "sister-observatories". Such observatories are co-operative projects between countries that already have experience in establishing and operating modern seismological facilities and countries have less experience in this field, but with suitable geophysical situations. The present co-operation between Finland and Zambia, reported on to the Ad Hoc Group, is a good example of such co-operation.

The development in communication and computer technology has been more rapid than was possible to foresee only a few years ago. This has made it possible to exchange, rapidly and on a global scale, large amounts of information and simultaneously