

(Mr. Dalman, Chairman, Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts)

of the operational requirements such as reliability, security and redundancy. Estimates of investment cost for stations in virgin areas are quite uncertain, as the main part of the cost usually is not instrument or equipment cost but rather construction cost or cost of necessary infrastructure, which may be quite difficult to estimate without careful site surveying. The running costs for a given facility could vary considerably from one country to another depending on labour cost and also on administrative regulations, which, for example, makes transmission cost, which is a significant running cost, several times higher in one country than in another. The administrative overhead, which depends on the organizational framework of the system, could also be a most significant part of the overall cost. The Group has made estimates of the investment and running cost of the experimental network to be used in GSETT-3. As this network is based to a large extent on existing facilities, these estimates should be fairly accurate. The experimental network proposed makes maximum use of early investments estimated to be about 150 million United States dollars. New investments needed to bring the system up to the desired station distribution and technical quality are estimated at 20 million dollars. This includes 3 million dollars of new investment in the prototype IDC now being established in the United States. The total running cost of the entire system is estimated at 25-30 million dollars per year. The Group has not discussed how these costs should be covered.

The Group received during its session briefings from individual delegations on activities of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Nuclear Test Ban, especially on its hearings on non-seismic verification techniques. These presentations were much appreciated, and I hope this dialogue between the Committee and the Ad Hoc Group will be developed. To this end, the Group decided to invite the Chairman of the Committee to its next session to present issues dealt with by the Committee that are relevant to the work of the Ad Hoc Group.

The Group received and discussed proposals for work on seismic event identification methods and non-seismological monitoring techniques and a proposal for the expansion of the mandate of the Group to include also considerations of non-seismological methods. No consensus was reached on these proposals. It was, however, agreed that I should undertake informal consultations on these issues and report the result at the next session of the Group.

Informal technical meetings held between the Group's formal sessions have over the year contributed significantly to the progress of the Group. The Group noted with appreciation that two such technical meetings had been convened since the Group's previous session. One meeting, hosted by Italy in Rome from 1 to 3 March 1993, was focused on seismological procedures. The other meeting, hosted by the United States in Landsdowne, Virginia, from 29 June to 2 July 1993, considered issues related to the planning of GSETT-3. Many participants in the Group attended and contributed to these two meetings. As to the continued contacts with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Group appreciated the offer of Dr. Duma of Austria to act as a contact person to maintain informal contacts with IAEA. The Group had earlier similar arrangements with the World Meteorological Organization.