

envisaged full-scale operation of the system to be tested. For the 16 January -6 March trial test, National Data Centers (NDCs) were established in each of the 21 participating countries, 4 experimental International Data Centers (EIDCs) were established and operated, and modern international communications links were put into place. The Group considered the overall results of these preliminary tests to be useful for planning the full-scale experiment, although not all of the essential functions were tested. The total volume of data collected, exchanged and analyzed in just one day of this warm-up phase was much greater than the sum of data in all previous experiments undertaken by the Group.

7. Those countries which participated were generally successful in extracting seismic data and transmitting these data to experimental International Data Centres (EIDCs). The Group noted with satisfaction that a number of additional countries expressed their intention to take part in future GSETT-2 activities, and are making preparations in this regard. Still, the Group considers even broader participation to be essential, in order to meet the objectives of GSETT-2.

The Group confirmed that the main focus of attention in GSETT-2 will be on the exchange of seismic waveform segments (Level II data) and the analysis of those data at EIDCs. Nevertheless, the Group agreed that seismic parameter data (Level I data) are also important, and that countries which at present are able to provide seismic parameter data only should also be encouraged to participate.

8. Also at experimental IDCs, valuable experience was gained. The Ad Hoc Group noted that the workload was heavier than expected, and that further procedures must be developed and evaluated in order to fully realize the potential of using Level I and, in particular, Level II data. However, it is essential to establish the planned direct inter-computer satellite links between the EIDCs in Moscow and Washington, D.C.

9. With regard to the use of WMO/GTS for seismic data exchange during GSETT-2, the Group and the WMO representatives agreed that further preparatory work is needed before the WMO/GTS communications channels can accommodate the voluminous Level II data. The Group welcomed a suggestion by the WMO to be represented at the forthcoming meeting (21-28 May 1990) of the WMO Commission for Basic Systems' Working Group on the GTS to discuss this issue and to provide the WMO with the needs of the Ad Hoc Group for GSETT-2. The Ad Hoc Group suggests that, on the understanding that there are no financial implications for the Conference on Disarmament, Mr. Peter Basham of Canada be requested to represent the Group at that meeting, and that Mr. Shigeji Suyehiro of Japan be requested to assist him on this matter.

10. In the light of the experience accumulated so far, the Group revised its preliminary plans and instructions for GSETT-2, and agreed to proceed in accordance with the schedule annexed to this progress report.

11. During the time period until the Group's next session, Phase 2 of GSETT-2 will continue with a number of activities, gradually building up to the envisaged full-scale operation of the system to be tested: