

activities. Discussions revolved around such questions as the reliability of the global seismic data exchange network being elaborated by the Ad Hoc Group; its detection and identification capability: the need to expand participation in the testing of the system currently underway.

28. Several delegations suggested that, in addition to seismic monitoring, the possibility should be considered of reinforcing a multilateral verification system for the monitoring of a nuclear test ban to include: atmospheric radioactivity surveillance; satellite remote sensing; and on-site inspection. They maintained that a consideration of these various components in their inter-relationship could greatly enhance the reliability of any future verification system.

29. Many delegations suggested that the Ad Hoc Committee bear in mind the practical work accomplished on nuclear testing verification issues in the context of the bilateral USSR/United States Nuclear Testing Talks (NTT). They welcomed the signing by the USSR and United States of the protocols to the Threshold Test Ban Treaty of 1974 and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty of 1976. The chief negotiators of the NTT, Ambassador Palenykh of the USSR and Ambassador Robinson of the United States, addressed the Ad Hoc Committee at its fourth meeting on 9 August 1990, on the verification methods used in those two protocols, namely, hydro-dynamic yield measurement, on-site inspections and in-country seismic monitoring. Discussions revolved mainly around the applicability of those methods to verification of a multilateral treaty. The Ad Hoc Committee expressed appreciation for the visit of the Soviet and United States negotiators. It was the overall view that the Ad Hoc Committee's consideration of verification questions benefited from the above exchange and that this form of exchange of information could be useful in future consideration as well.

30. It was suggested that future consideration of the question of institutional and administrative arrangements could include methods of consultation and cooperation as well as appropriate organs, their composition and functions. Consideration could also be given to questions of financial aspects related to a verification system.

31. With respect to the parallel consultations under the guidance of the Chair on a programme of work for future consideration, the Chairman announced that several proposals had been put forward. The Chair pointed out that, although these proposals contained common elements based on the existing mandate, points of divergence had to be narrowed and that the remaining amount of time was not sufficient to produce the programme of work before the end of the session. The Chair also expressed his hope that the useful exchange of the views held this time would be taken into account in the future. It was suggested that members of the Ad Hoc Committee continue to discuss the subject during the intersessional period of the Conference on Disarmament and that, if necessary, parallel consultations on a programme of work could continue when the Ad Hoc Committee is re-established.