

PROGRESS REPORT TO THE COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT  
ON THE TENTH SESSION OF THE AD HOC GROUP OF  
SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS TO CONSIDER INTERNATIONAL  
CO-OPERATIVE MEASURES TO DETECT AND IDENTIFY  
SEISMIC EVENTS

1. The Ad Hoc Group of Scientific Experts to Consider International Co-operative Measures to Detect and Identify Seismic Events, initially established in pursuance of the decision taken by the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament on 22 July 1976, held its tenth formal session from 7 to 16 July 1980 in the Palais des Nations, Geneva, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Ulf Ericsson of Sweden. This was the second session of the Group convened under its new mandate by the decision of the Committee on Disarmament at its 48th meeting on 7 August 1979.
2. The Ad Hoc Group continues to be open to all Member States of the Committee on Disarmament as well as upon request to non-Member States. Accordingly, scientific experts and representatives of the following Member States of the Committee on Disarmament participated in the session: Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America.
3. At their request and on the basis of previous invitation by the Committee on Disarmament, scientific experts from the following non-Member States of the Committee on Disarmament participated in the session: Austria, Denmark, Finland, New Zealand and Norway.
4. A representative of the World Meteorological Organization also attended the session.
5. Under the current mandate of the Ad Hoc Group, information on national investigations related to the work of the group has been presented by experts from Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom and United States of America. Following presentations of the current status of these national investigations, the Ad Hoc Group began a review and discussion of the scientific aspects of the studies and made recommendations for their further continuation.

6. Based on inter alia the results from these national investigations, the Ad Hoc Group also had discussions concerning the further development of the scientific and technical aspects of international co-operative measures to detect and identify seismic events, and also on the further elaboration of instructions for an experimental test of the global system.

7. In accordance with the discussions during its ninth session, the Ad Hoc Group agreed to establish five study groups in order to achieve an appropriate compilation, summarization and assessment of the experience acquired through national investigations and co-operative studies in areas relevant to its work. These open-ended study groups will each deal with a specific issue, and will each be headed by a convenor and a co-convenor as follows:

(1) Seismological stations and station networks:

Dr. Basham (Canada), Dr. Schneider (GDR)

(2) Data to be regularly exchanged (Level I data):

Dr. Kárník (Czechoslovakia), Dr. Harjes (FRG)

(3) Format and procedures for the exchange of Level I data through WMO/GTS:

Dr. McGregor (Australia), Dr. Ichikawa (Japan)

(4) Format and procedures for the exchange of Level II data:

Dr. Husebye (Norway), Dr. Hristoskov (Bulgaria)

(5) Procedures to be used at international data centres:

Dr. Dahlman (Sweden), Dr. Alewine (USA)

8. The Ad Hoc Group also discussed the schedule for its further work. It considered that in the light of the time needed for national investigations and co-operative studies and for the reliable assessment of their results, it should envisage the submission of its report, based on the then available information, and in compliance with its present mandate, during the second part of the 1981 session of the Committee on Disarmament. This is in agreement with the time schedule established by the Ad Hoc Group during its ninth session. The Ad Hoc Group considered that it would require two or three further sessions to prepare its report. It suggested that the next session, subject to approval by the Committee on Disarmament, should be convened from 2-13 February 1981, in Geneva.