



preparatory commission for the  
comprehensive nuclear-test-ban  
treaty organization

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## Note Verbale

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The Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions of States Signatories and has the honour to announce the "*Expert Meeting on Special Studies in RN and ATM Methods*" which will take place from 03 - 04 October 2019, at the Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria. The objective of the Meeting is to provide experts with further insights into methods they can use to interpret and understand data. ATM is not a defined product of the IMS, however national experts may choose to use ATM methods to understand the relevance and content of RN measurements of the IMS.

The Secretariat has further the honour to inform that nominations for the aforementioned expert meeting should be submitted through official channels to the Provisional Technical Secretariat not later than 03 June 2019. Due to a new strict requirement by the host country regarding visa issuance, nominations arriving late may risk that the time required to obtain visas from the host country can no longer be met.

The Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions of States Signatories the assurances of its highest consideration.



Attachment

To all Permanent Missions of States Signatories

<b>Title</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Expert Meeting on Special Studies and ETA with RN and ATM Methods</b>
<b>Objectives</b>	<p>Special Studies provide in-depth, technical reviews by expert analysis of data from the International Monitoring System (IMS) to improve the estimated values for the standard signal and event parameters resulting in an Updated Radionuclide Report (URR). The purpose of the Expert Technical Analysis (ETA) of IMS data and other relevant data provided by the requesting State Party is to assist the State Party concerned to identify the source of specific events. The output is the State Requested Methods Report (SRMR).</p> <p>URR and SRMR need to be seen in the context of the standard products they are building on, specifically the Standard Screened Radionuclide Event Bulletin (SSREB). Beyond its current implementation it may contain among others the use of atmospheric transport modelling results to combine field of regard information from all radionuclide samples sharing a possible common source region related to a single event. If available, information derived from isotopic ratios is included and may be used to confine the field of regard.</p> <p>The objectives of this technical expert meeting are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review methods that may be suited for Special Studies and ETA;</li> <li>• Discuss the possible content of the URR and SRMR;</li> <li>• Explore the potential use of various non-IMS data for SRMR;</li> <li>• Advance common understanding of methods to be developed for the SSREB, URR, SRMR and NDC responsibilities.</li> </ul> <p>Meeting participants are welcome to contribute to the technical meeting by making a 15 minute presentation related to one of the Agenda topics.</p>
<b>Location</b>	Vienna, Austria
<b>Dates</b>	03-04 October 2019
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Point of Contact</b>	<p>Capacity Building and Training Section, International Data Centre Division (IDC/CBT)  CTBTO Preparatory Commission  P.O. Box 1200, A-1400  Vienna, Austria  Tel: +43 1 26030 6147  Fax: +43 1 26030 5973  <a href="mailto:conferences_and_workshops@ctbto.org">conferences_and_workshops@ctbto.org</a></p>
<b>Participants Profile</b>	<p>Experts from NDCs and <u>research establishments</u> that are involved in applying and developing radionuclide and ATM methods that may be suitable for Special Studies and Expert Technical Analysis.</p>
<b>Application Procedures</b>	<p>Applicants are requested to visit our website <a href="http://ctnw.ctbto.org">ctnw.ctbto.org</a> and apply online latest by 3 June 2019.</p> <p>Financial support may be available for a limited number of participants. Such assistance must be requested at the time of</p>

	<p>registration (by selecting the relevant box during online registration) and no later than 03 June 2019. The same deadline applies for abstract submission.</p> <p>States Signatories wishing to nominate experts are requested to inform the Provisional Technical Secretariat (See Point of Contact) through their respective Permanent Mission.</p>
<b>Deadline for Application</b>	<b>03 June 2019</b>
<b>Financial Information</b>	<p>Applicable to PTS-funded participants only: In accordance with the Staff regulations and rules and Administrative Directives, the PTS will provide the funded participants with daily subsistence allowance (DSA) and financial support to cover the travel costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The DSA will be sufficient to cover related expenses during the expert meeting program.</li> <li>• The PTS travel agent will reserve, issue and send the tickets to the participants for the most direct and economical route.</li> <li>• Funded participants are not allowed to purchase their own tickets unless, under exceptional circumstances, they are authorized to do so and only if this proves to be the more cost effective option for the PTS; and</li> <li>• Health insurance will be provided for the duration of the expert meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Requirement: Scanned passport copies.</p>
<b>Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of the first expert meeting on Special Studies and ETA with RN and ATM methods;</li> <li>• Proposals for potential radionuclide and ATM methods for Special Studies and ETA;</li> <li>• Possible use and integration of non-IMS data;</li> <li>• Expert radionuclide analysis methods like summation of spectra of samples that appear to be related to the same event;</li> <li>• Potential role of CTBT radionuclide laboratories;</li> <li>• ATM methods to locate the source for single or multiple samples;</li> <li>• Characterization of the atmospheric isotope background based on known man-made sources;</li> <li>• Event time estimation from isotopic ratios;</li> <li>• Source characterization with isotopic ratios;</li> <li>• Fusion between radionuclide and SHI events;</li> <li>• Conclusions of the technical meeting in view of methods still to be developed for direct implementation in the SSREB and for possible application in Special Studies and ETA.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Pertinent Information</b>	<p><b>Visas</b> Participants should apply for visas, if needed, at the corresponding consular office upon receipt of an Acceptance Letter from the Provisional Technical Secretariat, in order to ensure timely processing.</p> <p><b>Health/Accident Insurance</b> It is strongly recommended that prior to departure all participants should acquire health and accident insurance for the duration of the meeting.</p>