

5 August 2011

FDSN WG IV CTBTO coordination

*4 July 2011, 12:00 – 13:30 (12:10 – 13:25)
IUGG Melbourne*

Participants – see attached list

Notes: John Clinton, Torild van Eck
Edited Minutes: Florian Haslinger

Chair: Florian Haslinger

Agenda was accepted as proposed – with “Any other Business” to be dealt with before the CTBT S&T discussion.

- 1) Review of 2009 meeting report
Acknowledged without objections
- 2) Activities since 2009 meeting
Nothing particular was reported
- 3) Any other business
Haslinger proposes to remove the “protection” from the WG IV mailing list archive (as other lists are also open to everybody). No objections. Email will be sent to all list members that this will be done.
Ahern asks whether “moderation” of mailing lists should be given up. As there is not too much traffic on the lists it is felt that moderation should remain for the time being.
- 4) Feedback from CTBT S&T conference
Haslinger reports on the CTBTO Science & Technology conference held in Vienna in 8-10 June 2011:
FDSN was well represented – all ExeCom members were giving or co-authoring presentations and / or participated in plenary panels. Conference reached ~ 500 scientists with diverse backgrounds (many not coming from verification).
Suarez & Haslinger presented FDSN-CTBT history & outlook. Today FDSN backbone network offers more real-time seismic data than IMS, so the main issue is not any more to have IMS data open (although this remains a target) but to make use of synergies in station sustainment, quality assurance, and technical training programs. In addition, abundance of free station data may allow independent verification of IMS results, and combination of IMS and scientific data may be used to develop improved discrimination methods.

Breakout meetings between FDSN and PTS were held to discuss web-service developments, coordination of capacity building & training programs, with general agreement on close collaboration.

- 4b) Letter with proposed agreement between FDSN and Niger (Universite Abdou Moumouni, Niamey) to facilitate exchange and sharing of data and research programs among scientists of both institutions, and to facilitate participation of students in M.Sc or PhD programs has been received by FDSN chair. While it needs to be clear that the FDSN has no budget to directly support education or exchange programs, all agree that the FDSN can engage in supporting bilateral projects. Researchers who will use TORD data (IMS array in Niger) are encouraged to engage UAM in their projects.

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It is agreed that FDSN may enter into such an agreement, clarifications on role of FDSN in facilitating exchange & education will be clarified in a cover letter. Details are left to the Chair & Executive Committee.

- 5) Current status & activities at the PTS (John Coyne)

Data availability (vDEC): Initially he reminded that PTS provides the REB (reviewed event bulletin) to the ISC on a monthly basis, so all PTS phase data are included in ISC bulletins and thus available to the community. The vDEC platform in addition has approx. 1 yr of IMS waveform data (continuous) available to researchers. If interested, a request including a mini-proposal needs to be submitted to PTS, and data is available only with a non-redistribution clause. Whether this platform will be extended in the future depends on future demand. One convincing argument to political decision-makers are visible benefits to the CTBTO verification system arising from studies using vDEC data. Also FDSN members might approach their representatives to the CTBTO WGB & political bodies to ask them to support this initiative.

Web services: PTS is developing web-services to replace autoDRM by new messaging system. Close coordination & collaboration with FDSN, IRIS, ORFEUS is welcome.

ORFEUS will invite PTS to the web-service development coordination meeting 15/16 September in DeBilt.
- 6) Areas of potential future cooperation
 - 6a) Training program coordination: PTS welcomes coordination on training efforts. Aspects to work on: exchange participant information (may have implications at PTS side), review training program content to create synergies, use FDSN as a pool to provide educators also for PTS courses. Within FDSN a contact person should be identified to coordinate with PTS – as there are no volunteers Haslinger will try do to that with help of the FDSN secretariat.
 - 6b) Promote & coordinate bilateral support & partnership
Haslinger proposes that FDSN should encourage IMS host country (station hosting institutions) to join the FDSN – in particular those “orphan stations” that are not already also part of one of the major global networks, and that may be located in developing countries with no or a very small seismological community. Current (and future) EU initiatives to sponsor specific projects in the PTS may help in these efforts.
 - 6c) Other ideas
FDSN station book should be coordinated with PTS (IMS/IDC) database of station information – as a minimum the FDSN station book should flag stations that (also) are part of the IMS.
Metrics on “root cause of failure”: PTS is collecting comprehensive data on equipment failure and outages, which might be very interesting for FDSN. Also FDSN members may have similar data. Ways how to share these informations between PTS and FDSN shall be explored. (Action Haslinger FDSN/ Starovoit IMS)
Software interfaces: Which tools already exist to combine PTS (NDC) data streams with scientific networks (i.e. integrating CD1.x data into SeisComp, earthworm, etc)? Tim Barton reports CD1.1 – CD1.0 converter, ORFEUS has CD1.1 – seedlink. Suggest to put some effort into collecting and updating relevant information.

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7) Resolution on future cooperation

Haslinger proposes a resolution to be passed by the FDSN plenary on 4 July.

The FDSN,
recognizing the mutual benefits arising from close collaboration with the
CTBTO/PTS

- welcomes the current efforts at the CTBTO/PTS to reach out to and seek closer collaboration with the scientific community, in particular with respect to making IMS data and IDC products available;
- offers its support and seeks active cooperation in the development and implementation of data access and exchange mechanisms and tools, and in the coordination of technical training and capacity building programs;
- endeavors to promote and support collaboration between FDSN member organizations and CTBT host country institutions (station operators and National Data Centres), specifically with regard to technical cooperation, capacity building and training.

Those present agree that the resolution could be passed to the plenary as is.

Participants:

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