



VIENNA CHAPTER

STATEMENT OF THE G-77 AND CHINA DURING THE 19TH SESSION OF WORKING GROUP B, VIENNA, 26 AUGUST - 13 SEPTEMBER 2002 DELIVERED BY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE G-77 (PM OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Mr. Chairman,

With reference to the 2003 Programme and Budget Proposals contained in CTBT/PTS/INF.537, the Group wants to reiterate its view that the proposal of US\$ 88.8 million is high and should be reduced. Therefore, the Group would like to ask the PTS to make every effort to reduce this amount. The Group notes that the post-certification costs have been increased substantially (approximately US\$ 7.6 million as compared to US\$ 3.2 million in 2002). This amount is very high and should be reduced in the light of the outcome of WGB discussion of Draft Guidelines for testing provisional operation and maintenance of certified IMS stations. Additionally, significant reductions could also be made in inter-alia, consultant and travel fees, in maintenance and acquisition of software, out of contract costs as well as in contracted and temporary services.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.