

APPROACH TO ENHANCING THE UTILIZATION OF HYDROACOUSTIC DATA AND PRODUCTS IN WEST AFRICA

The Hydroacoustic Monitoring Stations are essentially established to monitor the oceans for underwater explosions. In total, there are 11 stations with six underwater hydrophone stations and five T-phase stations on land in eight countries at entry into force of the CTBT. Despite the fact that all States Parties have open, equal, timely and convenient access to all raw and processed IMS data, IDC products, over the years, utilization of hydroacoustic data and products from members of the African Scientific community has been very low when a comparison is made with other waveform technologies. This may largely be attributed to a number of factors including the fact that there is no single African State responsible for any of the stations and the complexity of the monitoring station. It is on this basis that we carried out survey in order to understand the extent of awareness of the hydroacoustics technology within the region and to put forward strategy that will ensure greater involvement of researchers and scientists across the globe to eventually enhance the use of hydroacoustics data and products in the region. Awareness on the use and benefits been has been found to be generally low.

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