

Senior Management Engagement in On-Site Inspections

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CTBTO
PREPARATORY COMMISSION

PUTTING AN
END TO NUCLEAR
EXPLOSIONS

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Operating Framework

Concept

- OSI Exercise Programme for 2022-2025 – a series of tabletop exercises (TTE) in 2022 and 2023 to foster the engagement of the PTS senior management.

Basic premise

- On-Site Inspection (OSI) under the CTBT places the entire Organization—not just inspectors—under intense scrutiny. Senior management must be ready to lead, decide and communicate under unprecedented time pressure.

Guiding principles

- to improve the understanding and increase PTS-wide engagement in building of OSI capabilities/as a prerequisite for achieving OSI readiness.
- to prepare PTS senior management for their involvement in the 2 integration exercises: Build-Up Exercise (BUE24) & Integrated Field Exercise (IFE).



TTE on the Role of Senior Management During an OSI (2022)

1st all senior PTS leadership OSI exercise in this format

Objective:

- Familiarize senior PTS leadership with OSI-related policies, challenges and dilemmas with decision-making under time pressure

Format:

- Moderated discussion on 8 sequential scenarios (from IMS detection of an ambiguous event to arrival of an IT at a POE)

Participants:

- 27, including the ES, all PTS Directors, Division Coordinators, Sections Chiefs and States Signatories' representatives

Key Outcomes:

- OSIs = PTS-wide responsibility; leadership readiness is central (both technical & non-technical)
- Expedited standard internal procedures (admin, logistics, etc.) essential for the conduct of an OSI
- Develop an all-source IDC analytical capability to assist in authentication, handling, processing and analysis of multi-source data



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Senior Management Engagement during the BUE24

Medium-scale integrated field exercise focusing on the continuation period, with some elements to “test” PTS senior management under realistic OSI-like conditions

Focus areas:

- Handling media and public communication on sensitive inspection findings
- Facilitating access & cooperation from the Inspected State Party (ISP)
- Ensuring objective, timely communication (by the DG/DIROSI)

Outcomes:

- Strengthened leadership *confidence (tested however, in a limited format)*
- Enhanced coordination and decision-making agility, but with some room for improvement
- Valuable formative experience in preparation for a full-scale IFE



Main Takeaways

- TTEs & BUE24 confirmed the **organization-wide extend of the OSIs**
- **OSI readiness dependable** on both technical expertise in the field as well as effective decision-making, streamlined internal processes and credible communication
- Priorities (looking ahead):
 - Continuous senior leadership engagement & training
 - Streamlined internal mechanisms to meet OSI (and Treaty's) timelines
 - Enhanced IDC analytical power
 - Timely, evidence-based and transparent communication
- Next milestone: IFE

