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of the IMS network during the COVID-19 Pandemic - Challenges and Solutions

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The CTBTO Provisional Technical Secretariat is responsible for supervision and coordination of the IMS network operations, and for providing assistance to assure proper functioning of IMS facilities. Station Operators are responsible for the operation of the IMS facilities, in accordance with the Operational Manuals, while complying with facility specific contracts, agreements and arrangements. The global response to the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about numerous unprecedented challenges for the operation of the IMS network. Station Operators have faced challenges in accessing and operating their facilities during lockdown phases, and logistical problems such as spare parts shipments have increased during elongated periods with severe travel limitations.

This presentation will detail on those challenges, including difficulties with visits to IMS stations, RN QA/QC sample shipments, scheduled calibrations, and troubleshooting of unstable communication links. Through several monitoring tools and the COPC Operations Centre, the PTS carries out comprehensive analyses of the network to provide practical solutions to Station Operators. Continuous communication, availability and flexibility in supporting Station Operators are the key to manage such critical conditions. Further enhancements of PTS monitoring tools are under development to support IMS Station Operators in their intent to improve data availability, data quality and data surety.

Promotional text

The presentation highlights operational challenges and solutions during the COVID-19 Pandemic from the IMS/OPS view

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