

## GAREC-2006

GAREC-2006, the second Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, took place on June 19-20, 2006, again in Tampere, Finland. In particular for participants from outside of Europe it was convenient that this date was just before HamRadio-2006 in Friedrichshafen Germany on 23-25 June 2006



GAREC-2006 was a parallel event to the International Conference on Emergency Communications, ICEC-2006, which reviewed the present status of implementation and application of the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunications for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations. This international treaty, adopted by the ICET-98 Conference in Tampere in 1998 entered into force in January 2005, and ICEC-2006 also assisted many States, which are not yet parties to the Convention. Holding GAREC-2006 parallel to ICEC-2006 provided additional visibility for the work of the Amateur Radio Service in emergency communications.

Dr. Pekka Tarjanne, the former Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), chaired the organizing committee, which also included representatives of the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of the Interior, and the Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority.

Some of the presentations made at GAREC-2006 and some of the pictures taken by participants are posted at <http://www.rientola.fi/oh3ag/garec/material2006.html>.

