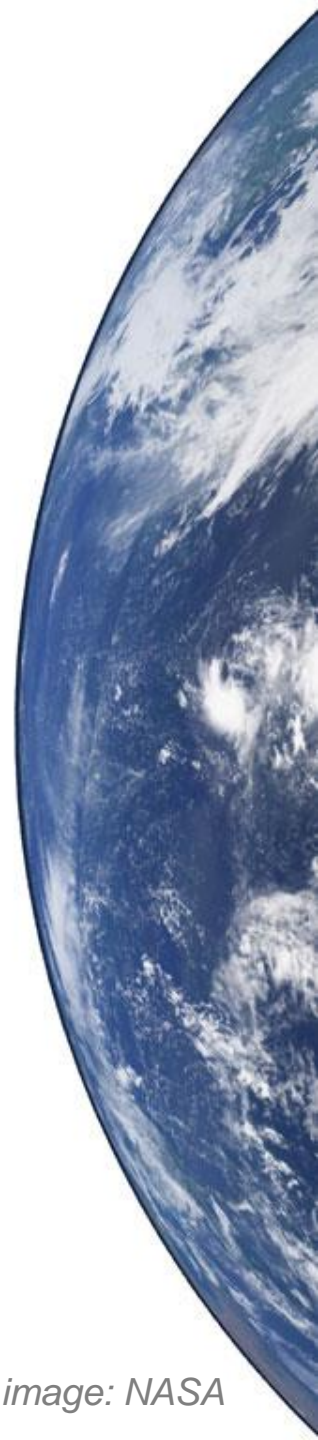


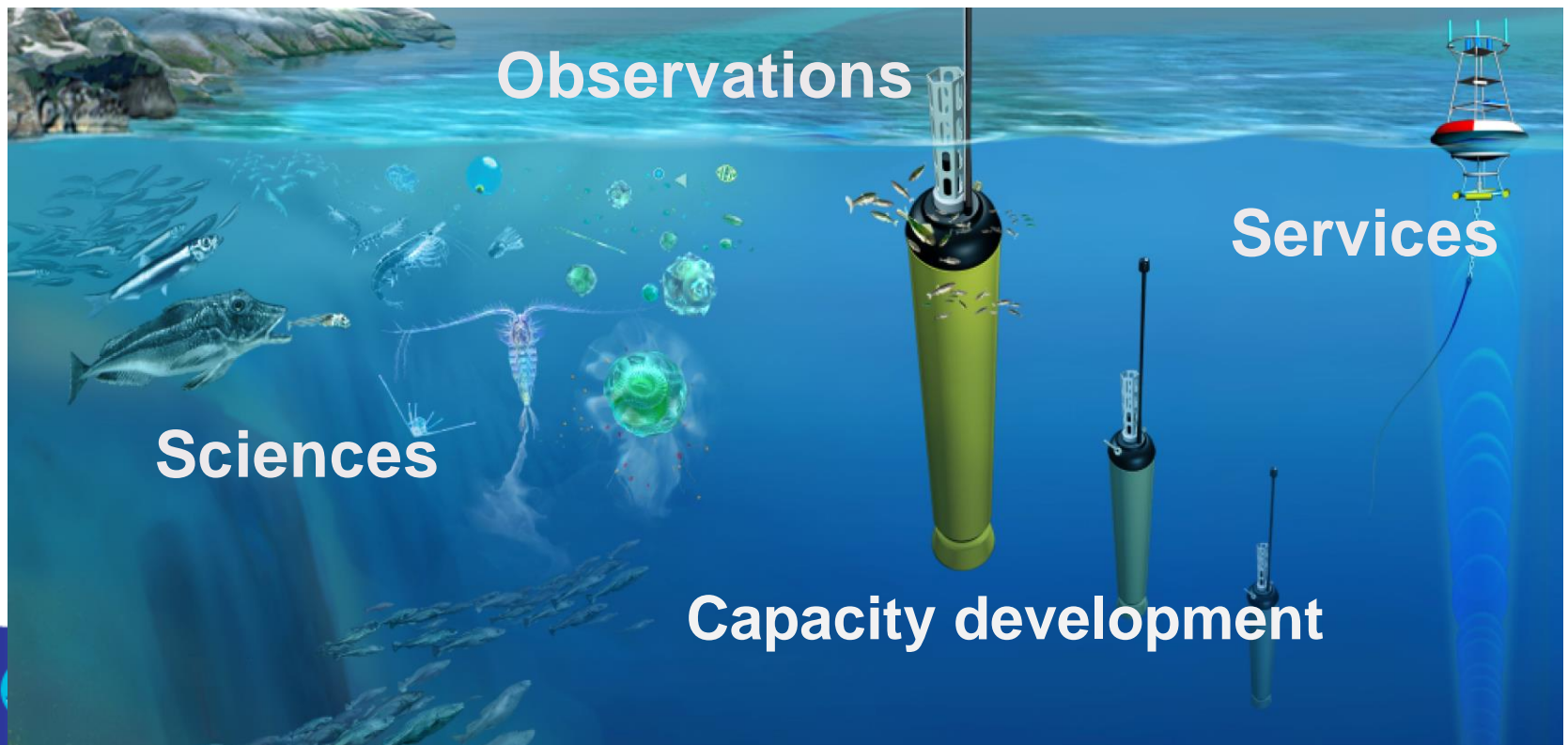
Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- Focal point in UN for ocean observations, ocean science, ocean services and data exchange
- Competent international organization for marine science
- Marine and Coastal hazards**
- Climate change and variability
- Health of ocean ecosystems
- Sustainability of coastal and ocean environment and resources



Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- Promote international cooperation and coordinate programmes
- Apply knowledge for improvement



ICG PTWS SC Meeting, 29 June to 01 July 2016: Outcomes – SW Pacific

27th Session of ICG for PTWS

- ICG PTWS XXVII to be held in Tahiti from 28 to 31 March 2017. IOC to issue Circular Letter in this regard.



Nominations of WGs/TTs/SCs

- SC decided to circulate an email to TNCs to request nominations to WGs/TTs (including regional) informing them on the current membership, chairs, vice-chairs and ToRs)

SWP Working Group Report

- Mr 'Ofa FA'ANUNU (Tonga) presented the report of the South West Pacific (SWP-WG). The Chair informed the SC that the main problem for the SWPWG has been that with the available resources it has not been able to meet as from 2012, and requested that the SWP-WG will review the existing Governance structure taking into consideration other tsunami response groups that have been formed in the SWP e.g. PIMOS (Pacific Island Marine and Ocean Services – PIMOS) for better efficiency use of resources and report back to the next ICG/PTWS meeting.
- SWP-WG indicated it will be meeting at Honiara, Solomon Islands, on August 22-23, 2016.
- The Chair informed the SC that during the Pacific Leaders Meeting in October 2015, the Leaders endorsed the 'Nuku'alofa Ministerial Declaration for Sustainable Weather and Climate Services for a Resilient Pacific'. The declaration has the following with respect to Tsunami “We the Ministers of Pacific Meteorological Services RECOGNISE that the region is also highly prone to tsunami with several countries having recently experiencing locally generated tsunami, requiring rapid detection and prompt dissemination of tsunami warnings to coastal communities and therefore the need to strengthen early warning systems for this Hazard”.

- **The SC recommended that the SWP-WG discuss the following in its Solomon Islands Meeting, August 22-23, and report back to WG2, WG3 and the 27th session of the ICG/PTWS:**
 - 1. Development of a competency framework/model for tsunami warning (including training requirements)**
 - 2. Review of the Tsunami Ready Checklist for use in the SWP and**
 - 3. Discuss a plan/strategy on how to improve warnings of local events.**
- SC was pleased to note the series of in-country trainings on tsunami warning and response focusing on the PTWS Enhanced Products carried out in the SWP. It expressed particular appreciation to US NWS for its support to ITIC in leading these trainings and requested for its continued assistance for completion of trainings in the remaining countries of Fiji, Kiribati and Tuvalu. At the same time it urged countries to explore opportunities for national and donor funding to ensure training and other capacity building needs



- The SC recognized the leadership, efforts and support of the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) and IRD (Institute of Research for Development), New Caledonia, in encouraging seismic data sharing for tsunami detection in the South-West Pacific (SWP) region through the establishment of the Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET);
- The SC endorsed ORSNET as the vehicle for seismic data sharing in the SWP including providing data to the Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs), and encouraged VMGD and IRD to continue to source funding for the running of ORSNET and to support other SWP countries in their NTWS efforts;
- The SC recommended that the SWP Seismic Data Sharing Task Team continue with the tasks focused on overseeing the progress of ORSNET in the next intercessional period (2017 – 2019).



- The SC encouraged Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) to implement Common Alerting Protocols (CAP) for the tsunami messages disseminated to facilitate use by a range of systems that support Member States tsunami warning
- The SC noted that the Caribbean system has completed guidelines for a “**Tsunami Ready**” recognition programme, and that the material is available to PTWS; It acknowledged the potential of such programmes for the PTWS;
- The SC requested Working Group 3 to investigate the extent to which the Caribbean guidance requires adaptation for the PTWS, taking into account feedback from pilots to be conducted in Ecuador, Honduras, Samoa, Tonga, and Vanuatu and make the changes and report back to ICG-PTWS XXVII in this regard;
- The SC requested Working Group 3 to factor the Tsunami Ready conditions into the development of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Disaster Management, Preparedness and Reduction

Tsunami Ready

- SC discussed about how to develop it in the Pacific Ocean, such as through a pilot initiative that could inform a decision at the next ICG session. Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu in the South West Pacific and Ecuador and Honduras in the South East Pacific and Central America indicated interested in helping to test the programme.
- SC decided to request WG3 to investigate the possibility of piloting an experimental Tsunami Ready recognition process in the countries identified above (decision under WG3 above).

World Tsunami Awareness Day

- Dr Laura KONG (ITIC) reported that following the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction adopted at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) and under the initiative of Japan, the UN designates the 5th of November of every year as “World Tsunami Awareness Day” (WTAD),
- SC requested the Secretariat to inform Member States on the WTAD and on the activities it has planned for WTAD 2016, asking Member States to share with the Secretariat the activities they have planned to commemorate that day. It also requested the Secretariat to share that information with the SC.

PACWAVE 2017 Exercise

- The SC decided PacWave 17 will be conducted on 15-17 February 2017 with a maximum of 6 scenarios that will be selected by the Task Team and that represent good coverage of the Pacific Ocean in order to test new enhanced products for NWPTAC, PTWC and SCSTAC.
- The SC endorsed the following aims for PacWave 17:
 1. To test the new NWPTAC, PTWC and SCSTAC Enhanced Products
 2. Test communications from the NWPTAC, PTWC and SCSTAC Tsunami Service Providers to Countries.
 3. Test whether the PTWS PTWC/NWPTAC/SCSTAC Tsunami Service Provider products are interpreted by countries accurately and in a timely manner.
 4. Test national and regional communication
 5. Test national and regional cooperation.

With the following timeline:

–IOC Circular Letter: August 2016 (to include the list of scenarios) Manual:15 November 2016 (**IOC CL 2636 issued on 16 Aug'16**)

–Scenarios loaded onto website: At least one month prior to the exercise to be conducted on 15-17 February.



PTWS Enhanced Products

- SC decided that for significant changes and scheduled quarterly updates, WG2 and its Task Team shall communicate to Member States through the IOC Secretariat by means of a Circular Letter at least 3 months in advance. E.g., general word and format changes to text messages.
- For country-specific changes, PTWC should implement changes on request and those changes should be included for information in the same Circular Letter above. E.g., changes to polygons and forecast points.
- For “emergency” changes, WG2 and its Task Team could approve immediate implementation as decided by the WG, and these should be immediately communicated to Member States through email sent to TNC/TWFPs by the IOC Secretariat. Criteria for deciding on the “emergency” nature should be included in the message sent through email. E.g., unforeseen issues with existing products.



Training

- The SC noted the central role that the ITIC has played in developing guidance, organizing and conducting regional and in-country trainings for PTWS countries, notably Tonga, Solomon Islands, Colombia, Cook Islands, Peru, Vanuatu, and Fiji in 2015-2016 and regionally for the South China Sea, Latin America, and the Pacific Islands in 2013-2014;
- The SC expressed particular appreciation to US NWS for its support to ITIC in leading these trainings and requested for its continued assistance for completion of trainings in the remaining countries of Fiji, Kiribati and Tuvalu to strengthen their tsunami warning and emergency response operations
- The SC noted that the US NWS cannot routinely fund ITIC travel in support of this capacity building service.
- The SC urged countries to explore opportunities for national and donor funding, in consultation with ITIC and the Secretariat, to ensure training and other capacity building needs are met on an on-going basis.
- The SC emphasized the importance that every tsunami-vulnerable community should have an evacuation map and plans. It encouraged Member States to make this a highest priority action to save lives.

One Planet – One Ocean



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