



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ
اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات
政府间海洋学委员会

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(Available in English only)

IOC/VR/BA/eb
19 March 2021

- To: ICG/PTWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) for Australia, Cooks Islands, Fiji, France (New Caledonia & French Polynesia), New Zealand, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Vanuatu ICG/PTWS Chair and Vice-Chairs
- Cc: Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC (for information)
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States: Australia, Cooks Islands, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, and Vanuatu
Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC)
International Tsunami Center (ITIC)
Permanent Observers to ICG/PTWS
UNESCO Office in Apia, Samoa

Subject: Seventh Meeting of the PTWS Working Group 2 Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific and Eighth Meeting of the PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), 29th March–1st April 2021

At its 28th Session in April 2019, the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS) decided to maintain with revised terms of reference three of its subsidiary bodies: WG2 (Tsunami Detection, Warning and Dissemination) Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific (TTSDSWP); Pacific Island Countries and Territories Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation (PICT-WG); and its Task Team on Capacity Development (TTCD) (cf [ICG/PTWS-XXVIII summary report](#)).

The PICT-WG and both Task Teams are holding online meetings from 29 March to 1st April 2021 and will report to the 29th Session of the ICG/PTWS at a date still to be decided. These series of meetings will follow a closed meeting on the Oceania Regional Seismic NETWORK ([ORSNET](#)) on Monday 28th March 2021.

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These meetings will be held online, through the Zoom platform on the dates and time outlined in the table below. To join each session please use the link provided for each relevant session in the table below.

Meeting Title	Date	Time (UTC)	Online Link
WG2 Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific (TTSDSWP) [7 th meeting]	29th March	22:00-24:00	Online Zoom Meeting https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/939g2Quyg88MPs0L2Ibq_Wx
PICT-WG Task Team on Capacity Development	30th March	22:00-24:00	Online Zoom Meeting https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/6spjovH939g2Quyg88MPs0L2Ibq_Wx
PICT-WG Session 1 [8 th meeting]	31st March	22:00-24:00	Online Zoom Meeting https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/2urjIjG90PICoPCfveYpRs60kRY7N8
PICT-WG Session 2 [8 th meeting]	1st April	2:00-4:00	Online Zoom Meeting https://unesco-org.zoom.us/j/pjwrHdCNvqgV2-JyvSHzAWTtVrgx

Through this circular letter, Tsunami National Contacts (TNCs) of the above mentioned countries are invited to nominate delegate(s) to the ICG/PTWS-WG2 TTSDSWP, TTCD and PICT-WG meetings according to their composition detailed below. Nominations should be sent by email to Mr Bernardo Aliaga, ICG/PTWS Technical Secretary by 22 March 2021 (att. b.aliaga@unesco.org, copied to Jiuta Korovulavula, IOC NPO, c/o Geoscience Division of SPC, Suva, Fiji, email address: j.korovulavula@unesco.org).

The enclosed Provisional Agendas for the abovementioned meetings were prepared by the Secretariat in coordination with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of both working groups. Further information on meeting arrangements will be provided in due course.

All relevant information regarding the meeting including documentation and presentations as well as the list of participants will be made available at the following website: http://www.ioc-tsunami.org/index.php?option=com_oa&task=viewEventRecord&eventId=2997

The **ICG/PTWS WG2 Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific** has the following Terms of Reference:

1. To advocate seismic data sharing in the region;
2. To advise South West Pacific countries on data sharing protocols, techniques and technologies;
3. To work with SWP countries and donors to ensure a common data sharing policy;
4. To ensure the recommendations of the ICG/PTWS-XXIII Sessional Working Group on Data Exchange in the South West Pacific are achieved.

The ICG/PTWS WG2 Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific is comprised of representatives of National Tsunami Warning Centres and Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) Agencies and WMO Regional Association (RAV) as observers. Current Co-Chair is Mr Rennie VAIOMOUNGA (Tonga) with one Co-Chair to be elected following the stepping down of Ms Adrienne Mosely (Australia).

The **PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs** has the following Terms of Reference:

1. To continually review and evaluate capabilities of and make recommendations for improvements to countries in the Pacific Islands and Territories (PICT) Region for providing end to-end tsunami warning and mitigation services;
2. To support the involvement and contribution of PICT countries in the activities of the ICG/PTWS;
3. To promote and facilitate the tsunami hazard and risk studies in the PICT region;
4. To facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of seismic and sea level stations and networks in the region, and the interoperability of these systems in accordance with ICG/PTWS requirements;
5. To facilitate training and capacity building in the end to end tsunami warning and mitigation system in the region;
6. To encourage the sharing of tsunami information, including but not limited to the free and open exchange of data;
7. To facilitate tsunami awareness in school curricula, and development and dissemination of public educational materials;
8. To work in cooperation with PTWS Working Groups 2 & 3, and relevant task teams especially on activities that strengthen country capacity in tsunami warning, risk mitigation and emergency response.

The ICG/PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs is comprised of representatives from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) as members, Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) Agencies and WMO Regional Association V (RA V) as observers with Chair and Vice Chair to be elected by the members of the Working Group and endorsed by the ICG/PTWS. ICG/PTWS at its 28th Session elected Ms Eslie Garaebiti (Vanuatu) as Chair and Dr Jérôme Aucan (France-New Caledonia) as Co-chair of the Working Group.

The following PICTs are IOC Members: Australia, Cooks Islands, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Vanuatu.

The **PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs Task Team on Capacity Development** has the following Terms of Reference:

1. To continue the development of competency framework for National Tsunami Warning Centres personnel and pilot in Australia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga and report progress and lessons learnt to ICG/PTWS WG1, 2, and 3;
2. To continue to monitor and coordinate the Pilot Tsunami Ready Program and TEMPP in Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu and review Tsunami Ready Checklist for schools and communities in PICT;
3. To continue to develop the guideline for National Tsunami Warning Centres in responding to local tsunami and report to WG 1, 2 and 3; and
4. To develop an online survey of warning and mitigation capabilities in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (Member countries and IOC).

The Task Team Members: Australia, New Caledonia (Co-Chair), Tonga (Co-chair), Vanuatu, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Fiji, PNG, ITIC, SPREP, SPC, IOC, PTWC.

With the assurance of my highest consideration and looking forward to receiving your nomination in due course, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary

Enclosures (2):

Provisional Agenda for the Eighth Meeting of the ICG/PTWS-WG-PICTs and its Task Team on Capacity Development

Provisional Agenda for the Seventh Meeting of Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific of ICG/PTWS WG2

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**Eighth Meeting of the PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation
for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs)**

(Session 1: 22:00-24:00 UTC on 31st March 2021)

1. WELCOME AND OPENING Chair PICT-WG Jerome Aucan (2 minutes)
2. REVIEW OF OUTCOME OF SEVENTH MEETING OF PICT-WG (10 mins)
 - 2.1 UPDATE FROM 28th ICG/PTWS MEETING (Ofa Fa'anunu) (5 mins)
 - 2.2 UPDATE FROM ICG/PTWS SC MEETING (Jerome Aucan) (5mins)
3. REVIEW OF TSUNAMI DETECTION, WARNING, AND RESPONSE AND TSUNAMI MITIGATION IN THE REGION (40 mins)
 - 3.1 REPORT FROM PTWS TASK TEAM ON SEISMIC DATA SHARING IN SW PACIFIC (Rennie Vaiomounga) (20 mins)
 - 3.2 REPORT FROM TASK TEAM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN SW PACIFIC (Ofa Fa'anunu) (20 mins)
4. ZOOM GROUP PHOTO (2mins)

(Session 2: 2:00-4:00 UTC on 1st April 2021)

5. UN DECADE FOR OCEANS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (10mins)
Dr Laura Kong will present a report from the TOWS meeting on the UN DECADE
6. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER BODIES (10 mins)
7. DISCUSSION ON WG PRIORTIES AND FUTURE ACTION PLAN (10 mins)
8. REVIEW OF WG TOR (10 mins)
9. RECOMMENDATION to 29TH ICG/PTWS SESSION (20mins)
10. NEXT MEETING (2 mins)
11. CLOSURE OF MEETING (2mins)

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**Meeting of the Task Team on Capacity Development of the PTWS Regional Working Group
on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs)**

(22:00-24:00 UTC on 30th March 2021)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. REPORT ON PROGRESS ON TSUNAMI READY PROGRAMME (25MINS)
 - 1.1 Solomon Islands (5 mins)
 - 1.2 Vanuatu (5mins)
 - 1.3 Fiji (5 mins)
 - 1.4 Tonga (2.5 mins)
 - 1.5 Samoa (2.5 mins)
 - 1.6 Lessons Learnt and Way Forward for Tsunami Ready Programme. Identify member states interested to pilot Tsunami Ready Program in the next intersessional period. (5minutes)
2. REPORT PROGRESS ON DRAFT GUIDELINE OF LOCAL SOURCE TSUNAMI SOP (10 MINS)

Tonga to present an update on their progress in the development of their local source tsunami SOP as guided by the PTWS Draft guideline.
Discussions to trigger and identify other member states interested to join Tonga in the development of local source tsunami SOP.
3. REPORT PROGRESS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMPETENCY GUIDELINES FOR TSUNAMI WARNING CENTERS PERSONAL (10 MINS)

Tonga to present on current effort to align the draft competency guideline to ensure formal qualification is attained.
4. REPORT ON OUTCOME OF SERIES OF ONLINE SURVEY OF WARNING AND MITIGATION CAPABILITIES (10 MINS)

Secretariat will present a summary report of findings of all online surveys and recommendations.
5. REVIEW OF TASK TEAM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TOR (10MINS)
6. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 8TH PICT-WG MEETING & 29TH ICG/PTWS MEETING (10 MINS)
7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS (5MINS)
 - 7.1 Zoom Group Photo
8. CLOSE OF MEETING

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Seventh Meeting of the PTWS Working Group 2
Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the PICTs

(22:00-24:00 UTC on 29th March 2021)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. WELCOME (2 mins)
2. REVIEW AND UPDATE OF ORSNET FOCAL POINTS (10MINS)
3. REVIEW OF ORSNET COMMITTEE MEMBERS (5 MINS)
4. REVIEW OF ORSNET CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES (10 MINS)
5. ORSNET RECCOMENDATIONS TO WG2 TASK TEAM SEISMIC DATA SHARING IN SW PACIFIC (10 MINS)
6. REVIEW OF TASK TEAM SEISMIC DATA SHARING IN SW PACIFIC TOR (10 MINS)
7. RECOMMENDATION TO THE PTWS WG 2 on Tsunami Detection, Warning and Dissemination & PICT-WG (10 MINS)
8. ANY OTHER MATTERS
- 9.1 Zoom Group Photo
9. CLOSE OF MEETING