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Online Session, WG-SCS-X, 28 & 30 September 2021

# Review of Decisions, Recommendations and Actions arising from ICG/PTWS WG-SCS-IX Online MEETING

S.T. Chan  
Hong Kong Observatory  
28 September 2021

# Ninth Session of ICG/PTWS WG-SCS (online)

Held during 27-28 Aug  
2020

- Attended by China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, NWPTAC, PTWC, IOTIC



# Backup SCSTAC

Dr Ye Yuan (SCSTAC) remarked that SCSTAC had been working with the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) to establish a backup centre in Hong Kong, to cater for cases of malfunctioning of the primary Center in Beijing

*Action:*

*Project is on-going. Colleague from HKO will report on the latest status and implementation plan under Agenda Item 5*

# Tsunami Warning Decision Support System

Mr Hongwei Li (SCSTAC/NMEFC) reported the development of a PYTHON-based decision support system at SCSTAC. NMEFC would seek opportunities to collaborate with other Member States to develop the system, with the purpose of helping them to enhance national-level tsunami warning capability

*Action:*

*Good progress has been made. SCSTAC will provide update under Agenda Item 4.4*

# Operational Arrangements among TSPs

Discussion made as to the necessity of NWPTAC & SCSTAC issuing tsunami advisories for a big earthquake occurring far from their AoS like the 1960 Chile earthquake. It was suggested that TSPs to continue discussion on the matter and to report back to the next session

## *Action:*

*PTWS TSP Coordination Meeting held on 29 October 2020. TSPs agreed to more clearly define in respective User Guides the procedures for issuing products when the earthquake is located outside TSP's AoS. Discussion is on-going*

# Tsunami Bulletin Format Harmonization

Tsunami bulletins issued by IOTWS, PTWC, NWPTAC and SCSTAC, including the RSTPs (India, Indonesia and Australia) are of different formats. Discussed if IOC would consider having a standard format for the advisory bulletins

*Action:*

*Matter further discussed at [TT-TWO meeting held in Feb 2021](#), with experience of IOTWMS shared. IOTWMS felt CAP was more appropriate at the national level rather than at the regional TSP level and CAP messages made available by TSPs would not serve the intended purpose. IOTWMS recommended to encourage and assist Member States to implement CAP in their national service, including developing CAP guidance for NTWCs.  
Discussion on-going*

# In-person Meeting of WG-SCS

Chair, China and the IOC Secretariat discussed and intended to postpone the next in-person meeting of WG-SCS to Jan 2021 before the ICG/PTWS-XXIX originally planned to be held in Mar 2021 in Japan

## *Action:*

*ICG/PTWS-XXIX was subsequently postponed to Nov 2021 and it will be held online. The in-person meeting of WG-SCS-X was also postponed and replaced by an online session (the current session)*

# Capacity Building Activities

SCSTAC recalled that NMEFC offered to host a Standard Operating procedures (SOP) training in 2021, which might not be possible due to funding restrictions related to the pandemic. It was noted, however, that SCSTAC's international scientist exchange program would continue

## *Action:*

*Owing to COVID-19, the international scientist exchange program has been on suspension since Nov 2019. Yet, an online training workshop for tsunami warning operators by SCSTAC in Dec 2021 is being planned. Short-term attachment for international scientists would also be considered subject to COVID-19 situation*



# Highlights of Steering Committee Meeting of ICG/PTWS

21-23 September 2021 (online)

# PTWS Medium Term Strategy 2022-2030

- [PTWS Medium Term Strategy 2022-2030](#) drafted to provide a structured pathway for the governance and coordination of PTWS
- Vision, Goal and Objectives for PTWS developed
- Document to be further fine-tuned and submitted to ICG/PTWS XXIX for endorsement

# UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

- Provides a tremendous opportunity to address capability gaps in global tsunami warning & mitigation system
- Under IOC, UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme established and steered by TOWS-WG
- Scientific Committee being formed to draft 10-Year Research, Development and Implementation Plan
- Tsunami Ready Coalition be established in collaboration with national civil protection agencies & other stakeholders across UN structure; report to TOWS-WG on Tsunami Ready aspects

# UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (Cont'd)

For PTWS,

- establishment of Task Team to oversee UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme
- conduct projects & experiments (SMART cables, GNSS, DART)
- assume lead role in Tsunami Ready Coalition
- participate in all UN Ocean Decade supporting activities
- capacity development and education, support Ocean Teacher Global Academy

# PacWave Exercise

- PacWave22 to be conducted Sep-Nov 2022
- Comm test to be conducted on 13 Oct 2022 (International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction)
- Partial results be reported to ICG/PTWS-XXX (Nov 2022), including those from comm test, along with results from Member States which have conducted the exercise already
- Evaluation period be shortened from 21 days to 10 days
- Exercise Manual be distributed 180 days before the exercise; including lessons learned on conducting exercises in a pandemic context

# ICG/PTWS Session

- PTWS-XXIX to be held fully online in Nov 2021 (week of 15-18 Nov, over 4 days), with interpretation facilities on Zoom
- Japan willing to host the PTWS-XXX in Nov 2022



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