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ICG/PTWS-XXIX, 1, 2, 7 & 8 December 2021 (Online)

Report of Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System in the South China Sea Region (WG-SCS)

Sai-tick CHAN
Chair, WG-SCS

7 December 2021

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

Held on 27-28 August 2020

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



Tenth Session of ICG/PTWS WG-SCS (online)



Held on 28 & 30 September 2021

- Attended by Brunei Darussalam, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, NWPTAC

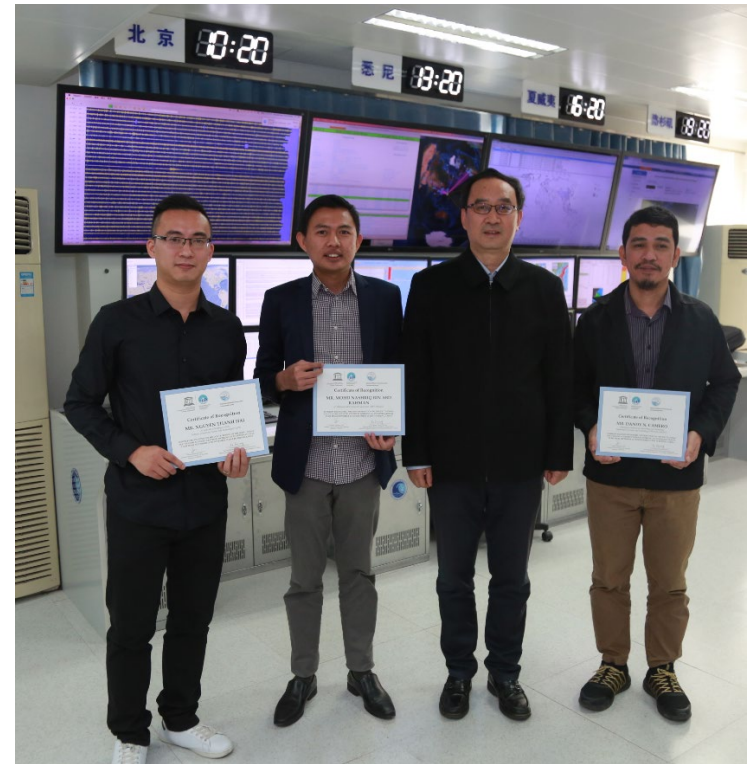
South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC)

- Full operation of SCSTAC commenced on 5 November 2019
- Up to Aug 2021, SCSTAC responded to 26 earthquake events within its AoS, and issued 28 Tsunami Bulletins in total to the Member States



Capacity Building Activities

- 2nd round (after 2018) of **SCSTAC International Staff Programme** conducted in 2019 – with 3 tsunami operators from Malaysia, the Philippines & Vietnam attached to SCSTAC during 16 Sep – 15 Nov 2019



- Attachment programme suspended since then due to COVID-19

Capacity Building Activities (Cont'd)

- **IOC SCS Training** for Seismic and Sea Level Operators, Hangzhou, China, 21-25 October 2019
- Trainees from Brunei, China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Malaysia, Vietnam

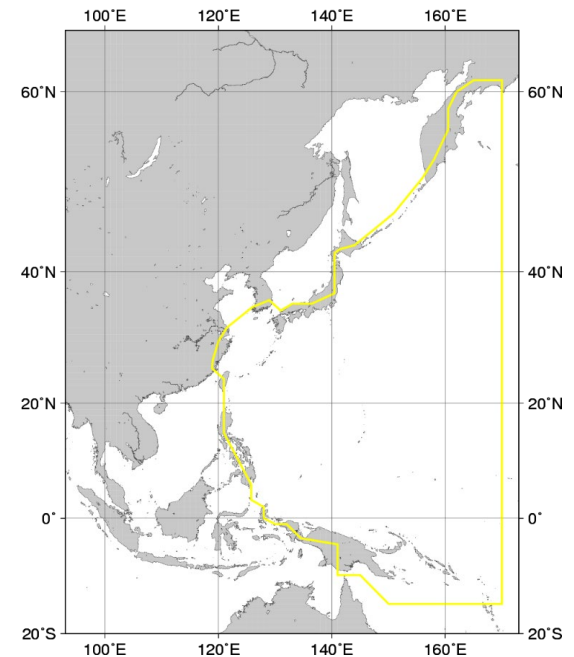
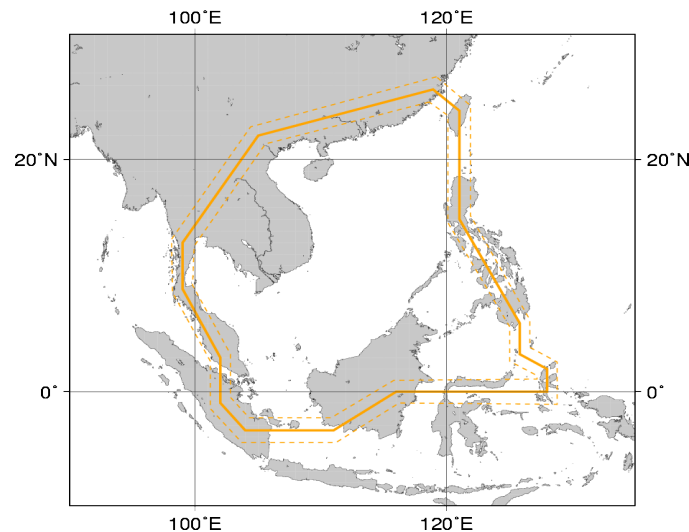


Capacity Building Activities (Cont'd)

- Online training workshop on strengthening standard operating procedures for seismic data and tsunami warning to be hosted by National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center (NMEFC), Ministry of Natural Resources of China
- 9-10 December 2021

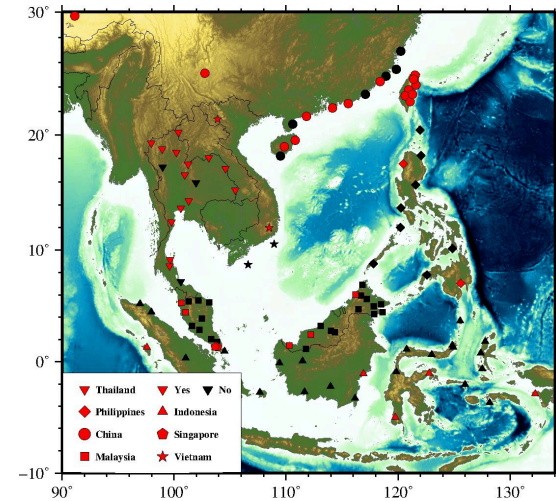
Operational Arrangements among TSPs

- 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
- Issue discussed at PTWS TSP Coordination Meeting held in October 2020. TSPs agreed to more clearly define in User Guides the procedures for issuing products when the earthquake is located outside TSP's AoS

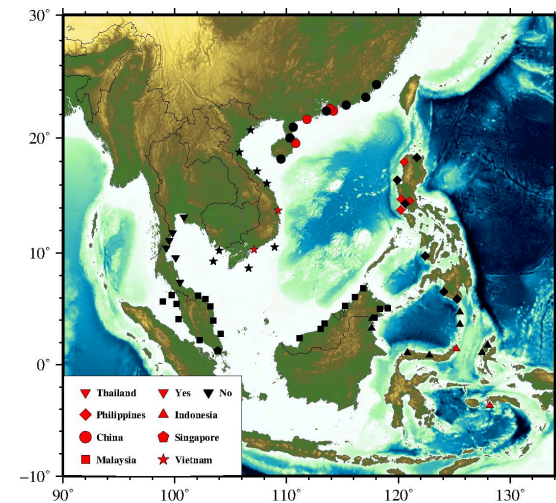


Enhanced Exchange of Data

- Meeting recognizes paucity of seismic & sea level stations close to major tsunami sources within SCS region
- Member States encouraged to share more data to further enhance tsunami warning capability in SCS region, especially for Sulu Sea, Celebes Seas & North Borneo



100+ seismic core stations



~70 sea level core stations

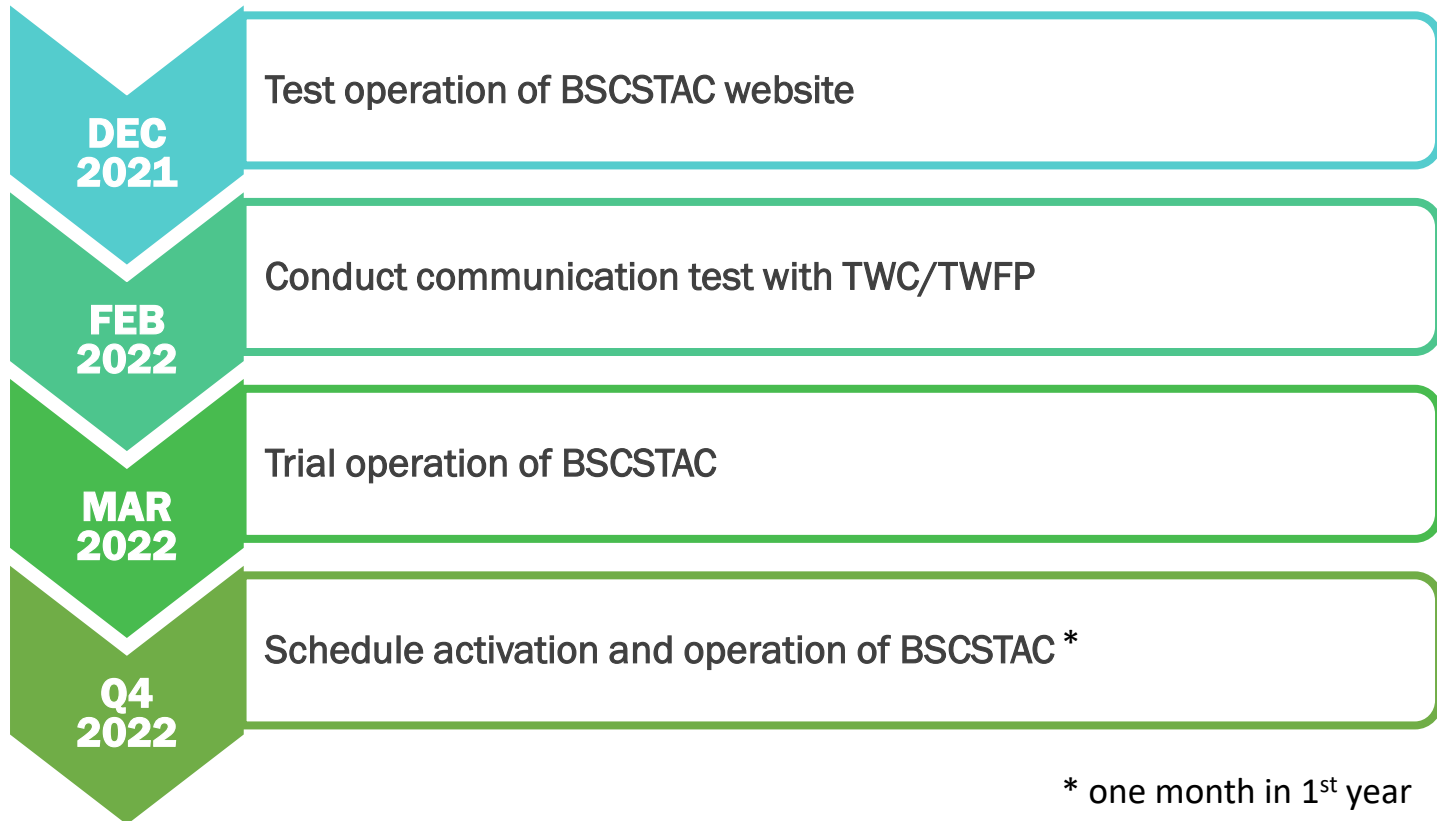
Establishment of Backup SCSTAC in Hong Kong, China

- SCSTAC working with **Hong Kong Observatory (HKO)** to build backup capability
- The backup SCSTAC (BSCSTAC) will be operated at Central Forecasting Centre (CFO) in HKO Headquarters – manned round the clock by Duty Officers; also responsible for global earthquake monitoring and local tsunami warning



南中國海區域海嘯預警中心備份中心(香港)
Backup South China Sea
Tsunami Advisory Center (Hong Kong)

Implementation Programme



Draft Recommendations from WG-SCS-X to ICG/PTWS-XXIX

ICG/PTWS Governance

Decides to continue the Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System in the South China Sea Region. Elected **Chair** is **Dr Dakui WANG (China)** and **Vice-Chair** is **Ms Suci ANUGRAH (Indonesia)**. The Terms of Reference for this group remains unchanged;

Decides to **dissolve the Task Team on Establishment of a South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center** of the Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the South China Sea noting that the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center has been in full operation since November 5th, 2019 and the purpose of the Task Team has been completed successfully;

Decides to **establish a Task Team** of the Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the South China Sea Region **on Capacity Development and Services** with Terms of Reference as in the Appendix. Elected Chair is Mr Zhiguo XU (China) with Vice-Chair to be elected.

Appendix to Recommendation

Terms of Reference

Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the South China Sea Region Task Team on Capacity Development and Services

1. To **coordinate training** workshops and other technical exchanges on topics related to earthquake and tsunami for enhancing the tsunami warning capabilities of the WG-SCS Member States.
2. To facilitate **implementation of the International Staff Programme** for short-term secondment of staff from WG-SCS Member States to SCSTAC on an annual basis.
3. To explore ways for furthering the **sharing and exchange of relevant data** and information in the South China Sea region.
4. To ascertain the latest **requirements** of WG-SCS Member States for tsunami advisory service provided by SCSTAC.

Membership: Representatives of Member States of the ICG/PTWS WG-SCS (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) and invited experts; representatives of PTWC and NWPTAC (JMA); with Chair and Vice-Chair to be elected either by the WG-SCS or the ICG/PTWS.



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End