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МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات
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IOC/VH/ON/ah
28 May 2024

To : ICG/PTWS Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP)
ICG/PTWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC)
ICG/PTWS Chair and Vice-Chairs

C.c. : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with IOC (IOC Member States)
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO, and
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States
Directors of UNESCO and IOC Regional Offices in the Asia/Pacific Region
Regional Organizations cooperating with UNESCO-IOC
Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC)
Director, Northwest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Center (NWPTAC)
Director, International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC)
Head, Tsunami Warning Division, China National Marine Environmental
Forecasting Center and South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC)
Coordinator, Central America Tsunami Advisory Center (CATAC)

Subject: Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS) Exercise Pacific Wave 2024 (PacWave24), September–November 2024, including live Tsunami Service Provider Communication Test on 5 November 2024 at 0000 UTC

At its 30th session ([ICG/PTWS-XXX](#), Nuku'alofa, Kingdom of Tonga, 11–15 September 2023), the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System approved the conduct of Exercise Pacific Wave 2024 ([PacWave24](#)) in the months of September through November 2024 to support [International Disaster Risk Reduction Day](#) (13 October) and [World Tsunami Awareness Day](#) (5 November).

PacWave24 will test PTWS Tsunami Service Provider (TSP), and country operational plans and procedures to respond to a destructive tsunami. PacWave24 is the eleventh in a series of PacWave exercises that have been conducted biennially since 2006. The Exercise Manual ([IOC Technical Series, 191](#)) is attached. For PacWave24, all exercise information, including resources, manual, post-exercise evaluation, and the summary report, can be found on the PacWave24 exercise web site at www.pacwave.info.

Recalling IOC Decision A-32/3.4.1 instructing regional Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICGs) TSPs, in collaboration with NAVAREA operators of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), to test tsunami maritime safety products in 2023/24 with the goal to operationally implement

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in 2024–2025, the [ICG/PTWS-XXX](#) recommended the PTWC to finalize preparations for providing special tsunami maritime safety products for ships to all [NAVAREA Coordinators in the Pacific and in the Southwest Atlantic](#) (e.g. NAVAREAs VI, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, and XVI) for transmission to the National Tsunami Warning Centres for forwarding to the NAVAREA Coordinators of their countries, or upon their request, directly to the NAVAREA Coordinators in the absence of a NTWC, and requested the PTWS Steering Committee to decide at its next meeting the dates for the period of testing, and full operational implementation by the PTWC in 2024–2025.

Accordingly, at its online meeting on 26 March 2024, the ICG/PTWS Steering Committee decided to provide special tsunami maritime safety products to NAVAREA coordinators through the NTWC from the PTWC, and further decided to conduct a trial dissemination of the dummy message from the PTWC to the NAVAREA coordinators through the NTWCs as part of Exercise Pacific Wave 2024.

Accordingly, PTWS Member States should choose to participate in all applicable modes of exercise outlined below:

- (i) One Live Communication Test from the PTWS TSPs to PTWS Member States on 5 of November 2024 at 0000UTC;
- (ii) One NAVAREA Live Communication Test from PTWC to the NAVAREA Coordinators referred above through concerned NTWCs, or in the absence of an NTWC, upon request to the PTWS Technical Secretary, directly to the NAVAREA Coordinator, on 5 of November 2024 at 0100 UTC
- (iii) A national exercise from September to November 2024; and/or
- (iv) A regional exercise involving neighbouring Member States within a region, such as within the PTWS Regional Working Groups where applicable, with a common scenario.

I invite you to refer to the timeline below.

31 August 2024	Deadline for PTWS Regional Working Groups to inform TSPs if products needed, copied to ITIC
1 September – 30 November 2024	PacWave24 Member State national exercise
2 weeks before Regional Exercise (5 Nov.)	TSP products available on regional exercise webpage (accessible at www.pacwave.info)
5 November 2024 (0000 UTC)	Live TSP Communications Test
5 November 2024 (0100 UTC)	Live NAVAREA Coordinators Communication Test from PTWC through concerned NTWC
5 November 2024	PICT Regional Exercise
21 November 2024	SEP Regional Exercise
15 December 2024	Deadline for Member States to complete and submit online PacWave24 Post-Exercise Evaluation Surveys for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live TSP Communication Test• Live NAVAREA Coordinators Communication Test• National Exercise• Regional Exercise
15 December 2024	Deadline for Submission of Regional Exercise Reports. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PICT Regional Exercise• SEP Regional Exercise
10 days prior to ICG/PTWS-XXXI (<i>April 2025, exact dates to be determined</i>)	Draft PacWave24 Summary Report shared with Member States
30 June 2025	Final PacWave24 Summary Report published and posted at http://www.pacwave.info/

With the assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signature]

Vidar Helgesen
Executive Secretary