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10th Meeting of the PTWS Regional
Working Group on Tsunami
Warning and Mitigation for Pacific
Island Countries and Territories
27th February , 2025

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Chair's Report WG-PICTs

WG-PICT – Chairs Report

TERMS OF REFERENCE

(i) To continually review and evaluate capabilities of, 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 within the multi-hazard framework.

(ii) To support the involvement and contribution of PICT in the activities of the ICG/PTWS.

PROGRESS UPDATE

- Exercise Pacific Wave 2024- PICT Exercise
- Development of the Minimum Competency Course
- National Tsunami Drills in Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa
- Review and Update of Tsunami Warning SOP – Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands
- Continued Seismic Data Sharing to PTWC through ORSNET

WG-PICT – Chairs Report

| TERMS OF REFERENCE | PROGRESS UPDATE |
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| <p>(iii) To promote and facilitate the tsunami hazard and risk studies in the PICT region.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2023- Hunga-Tonga Hunga Ha’apai Post Tsunami Inundation Report and papers published• 2023- Tsunami Hazard Assessment on Sigatoka, Fiji• May 2024- Expert Meeting on the New Hebrides, San Cristobal and New Brittan Trench• 2024 GEM Modelling Training |
| <p>(iv) To facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of earthquake and tsunami monitoring networks in the region and the interoperability of these systems in accordance with ICG/PTWS requirements.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2023-2024 National Seismic Network Upgrade in Tonga• 2023 – USGS installed a new Seismic Station in Fiji• 2024 – USGS VMAP installed a new Seismic Station for Volcano Monitoring in Fiji• 2 new Broadband stations planned for Tonga• SeisComP 5 & 6 Operational in most ORSNET countries• 2023 Concept Note developed for ORSNET Seismic Network Extension with USGS. |

WG-PICT – Chairs Report

| TERMS OF REFERENCE | PROGRESS UPDATE |
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| <p>(v) To encourage the sharing of tsunami information, including but not limited to the free and open exchange of data.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Continued Seismic Data Sharing via ORSNET however not all countries are sharing data- ORSNET Agreement – signed by Fiji and PNG- Exercise Pacific Wave 24- PICT WhatsApp Group and SLACK platform- SeisComP User Group Meetings |
| <p>(vi) To facilitate tsunami awareness in school curricula, and development and dissemination of public educational materials</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2023, Fiji reviewed the National Schools DRR Policy and Handbook to include Tsunami hazard assessment and mitigation• WORLD TSUNAMI DAY 2023, 2024 – Tsunami Awareness Competition, Radio Programmes, National Drills, Brochures.• UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Programmes – Fiji, RMI, FSM, Palau |

WG-PICT – Chairs Report

| TERMS OF REFERENCE | PROGRESS UPDATE |
|---|--|
| <p>(vii) To facilitate training and capacity building in the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system in the region.</p> | <p>2024 ITP-Chile – Solomon Islands, Samoa SeisComP Software Training – Fiji, Tonga, PNG International Institute of Seismology, Earthquake Engineering and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation – 2022 - 2023 (2 Fiji, 1 Vanuatu) UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme – Solomon Islands, Vanuatu In Samoa, 17 School evacuation drills conducted in 2024.</p> |
| <p>(viii) To work in cooperation with PTWS Working Group 1, 2, & 3 and relevant task teams, especially on activities that strengthen country capacity in tsunami warning, risk mitigation & emergency response. Support the implementation of Tsunami priorities under the UN Decade.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of Tsunami Generated by Volcano SOP via SATREP Project• Expert Meeting on New Hebrides Trench• Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme (ODTP);<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Programme2) W-Phase Initiative by French Polynesia, increase seismic and tidal networks in PICTs . |