TOWS-WG-VI
Paris, Feb. 20-21, 2013

Yutaka MICHIDA
Vice Chair of the IOC in charge of TOWS-WG
(Astmosphere and Ocean Research Institute, The University of Tokyo)

Structure of Tsunami Programme in IOC

IOC Governing bodies: Assembly, Executive Council

IOC Secretariat Tsunami Unit

ICG/PTWS Pacific
Dr Ken Gledhill

ICG/IOTWS Indian
Dr Rick Bailey

ICG/CARIBE EWS Caribbean
Dr Christa VON HILLEBRANDT-ANDRADE

ICG/NEAMTWS NE Atlantic & Mediterranean
Dr François SCHINDELE

ICGs (Inter-ICG Task Teams)

Disaster Management And Preparedness

Tsunami Watch Operation

Hazard Assessment Related to Highest Potential Tsunami Source Areas

WG on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related To Sea-Level Warning And Mitigation Systems (TOWS–WG)
References

Decision EC–XLV/Dec.3.2 (2012)
Resolution XXVI–7 (2011)
Resolution XXV–13 (2009)
Resolution EC–XLI.6 (2008)
TOWS-VI,

- reviewed the progress made during the inter-sessional period since TOWS-5
  
  reports from 4 ICGs including their experiences in tsunami exercises
  
  reports from Task Teams
The group recognized that the current financial situation strongly limits the implementation of the tasks of the Group, ICGs and Inter-ICG Task Teams and strongly urged the Member States to increase their extra-budgetary contributions to the IOC to provide the needed resources for the priorities identified by TOWS-WG and ICGs.

The group accepted the recommendations from the Task Team on Tsunami Watch Operations and requested the Task Team to implement them, in particular,

- Finalize the documentation of areas of responsibilities;

- Develop a standard questionnaire for post-event analysis in consultation with the Task Team on Disaster Management and Preparedness.
The group requested the Inter–ICG Task Team on Tsunami Watch Operations to review the present status of issuing of tsunami advisories to shipping and recommend ways of enhancing dissemination in consultation with relevant organizations including WMO, IHO and IMO.

The group strongly encouraged the Inter–ICG Task Team on Hazard Assessment Related to Highest Potential Tsunami Area to meet as soon as possible.

The group agreed that the work on ‘Outreach and Communications Plan for the IOC Tsunami Programme’ should be implemented by the Group under the leadership of the Chair of ICG/IOTWS.

The group requested that routine reporting on how the IOC tsunami alert list server is performing should be provided to the Group and that the Task Team on Tsunami Watch Operation will review what information goes on the list server and report to the Group.
The group recommended the IOC Assembly:

- To extend the TOWS–WG for a further inter-sessional period, with the same mandate and membership;

- To consider establishing the Inter-ICG Task Teams on Disaster Management and Preparedness and on Tsunami Watch Operations on a more regular basis with their revised TORs and composition proposed in ANNEX II;

- To grant additional time for the TOWS–WG to develop Terms of Reference for the studies of data gap analysis and the conduct of these studies by the ICGs.