



**Report to the XXIX Meeting (virtual)  
of the Intergovernmental  
Coordination Group for the Pacific  
Tsunami Warning and Mitigation  
System (ICG/PTWS)**

**Reported by:**  
**Dr. Wilfried Strauch, Chair ICG/PTWS**  
wilfried.strauch@yahoo.com

**ICG-PTWS XXIX**  
Agenda Item 3.1. CHAIRPERSON REPORT  
1 December 2021

# ICG/PTWS Governance

## Intergovernmental Coordination Group

- Steering Committee (SC)
- WG1 Tsunami Hazard Assessment
- WG2 Tsunami Detection, Warning and Dissemination
- WG3 Disaster Management, Preparedness and Risk Reduction

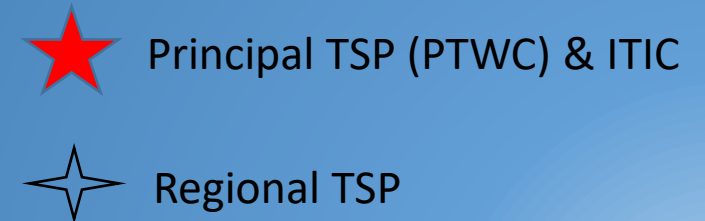
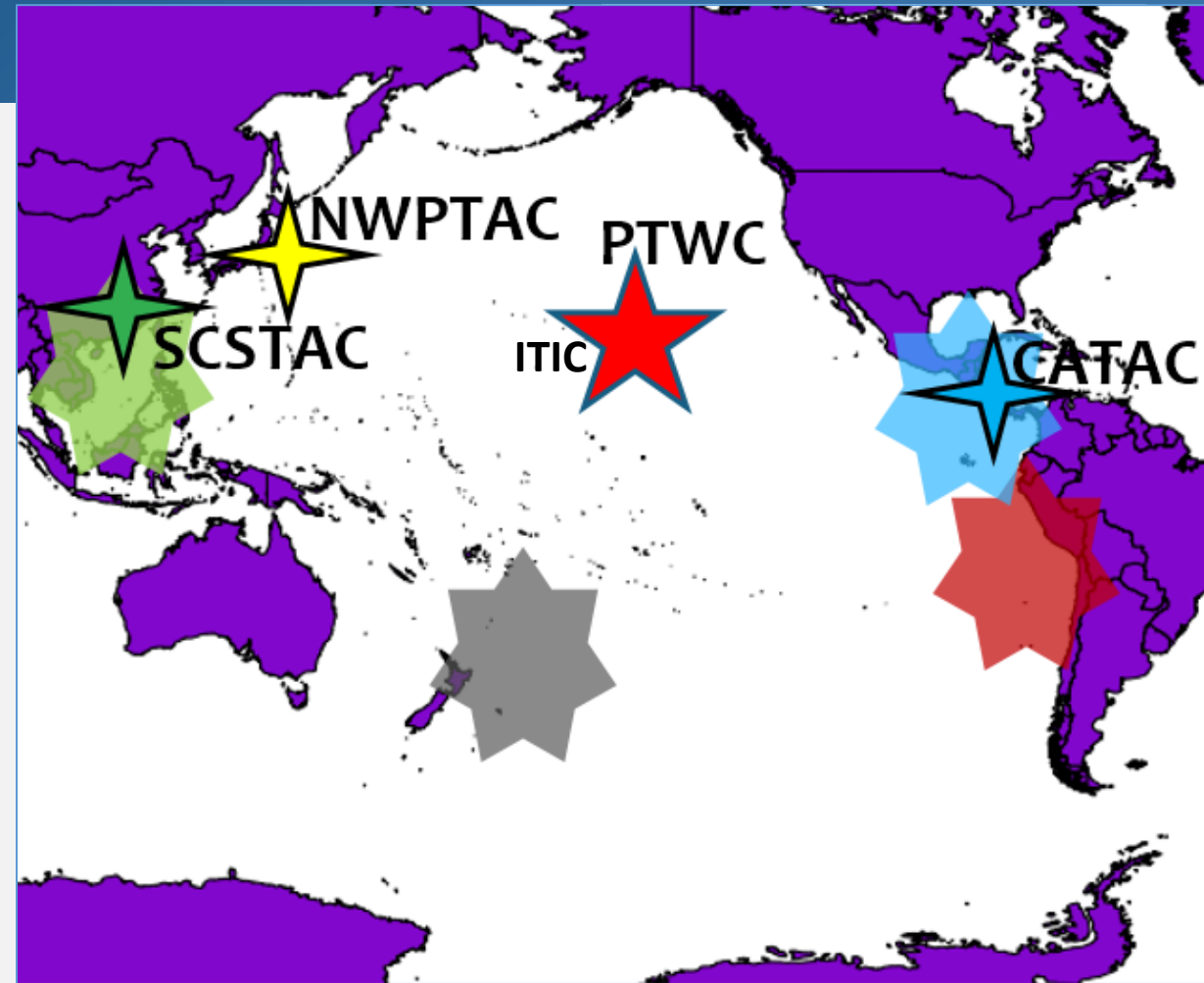
## Regional Working Groups

- **South East Pacific Region**
- South West Pacific Region
- **South China Sea Region**
- **Central American Pacific Coast**

## Task Teams

- SC: PacWave Exercises
- SC: Future Goals and Performance Monitoring
- SC: Evacuation Planning and Mapping
- WG2: Enhancing Products, Minimum competency levels; Multi-instrument network
- **WG for South China Sea Region:**  
**Establishment of a South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Centre - SCSTAC**
- **WG for Central America:**  
**TT Establishment of a Central American Tsunami Advisory Centre – CATAC**

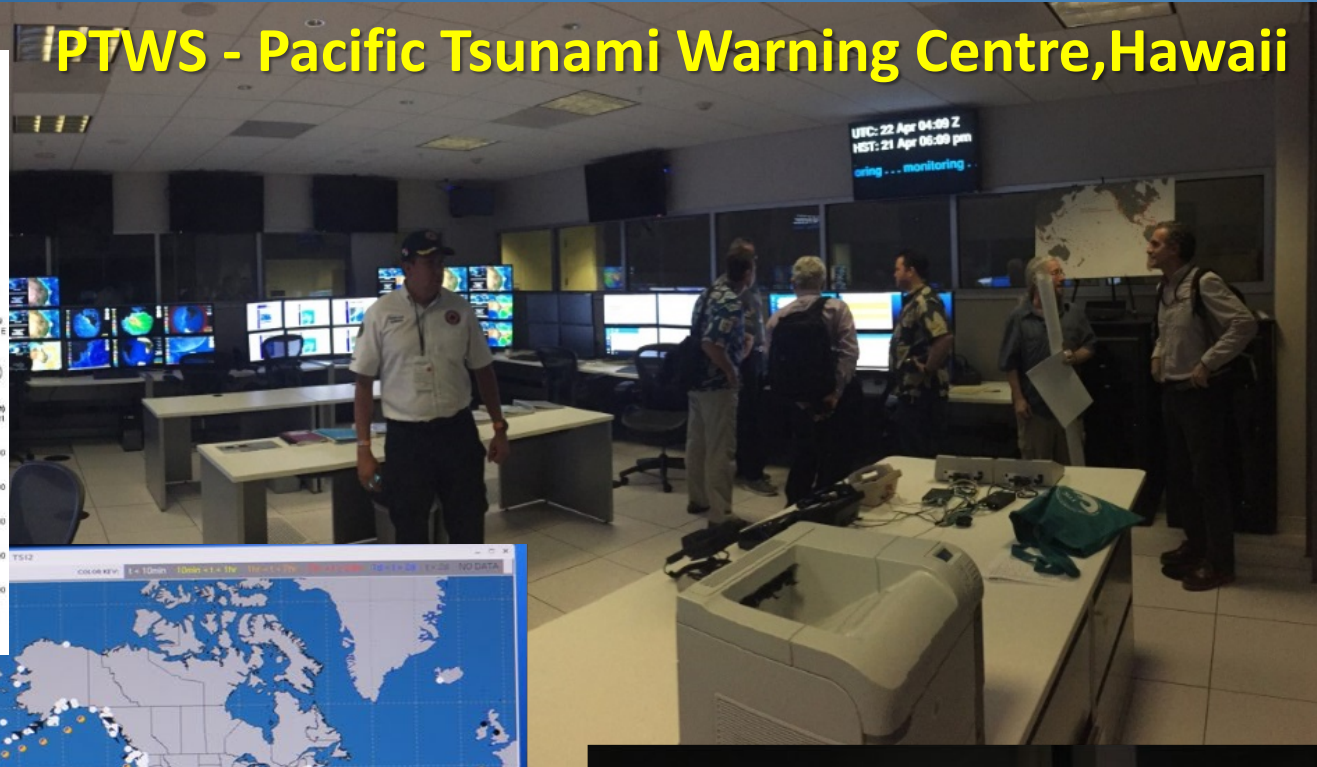
**ITIC International Tsunami Information Center**



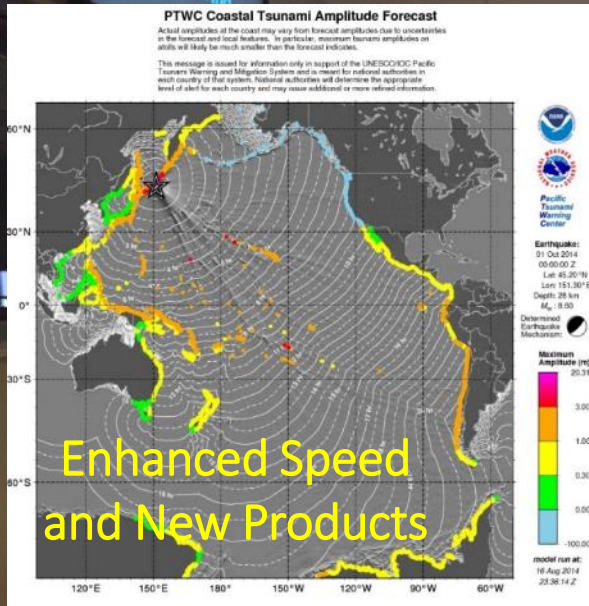
# Principal Tsunami Service Provider



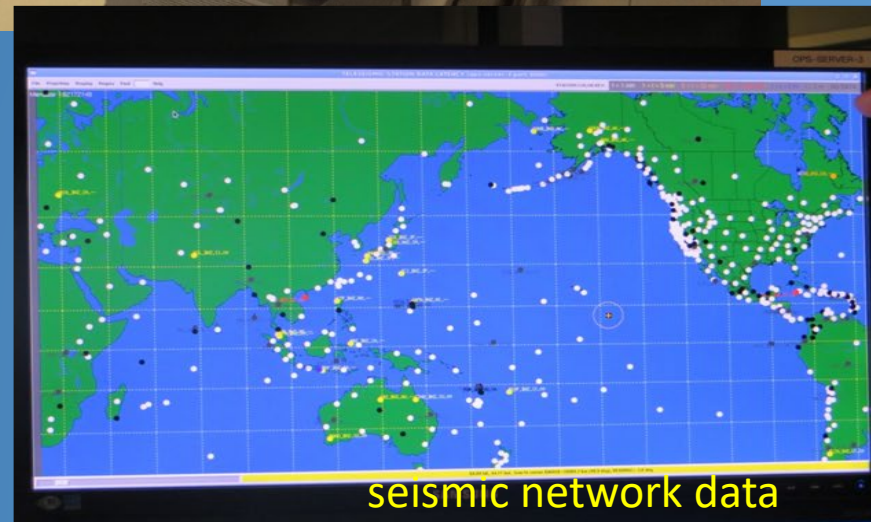
## PTWS - Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre, Hawaii



since 1968



Enhanced Speed and New Products

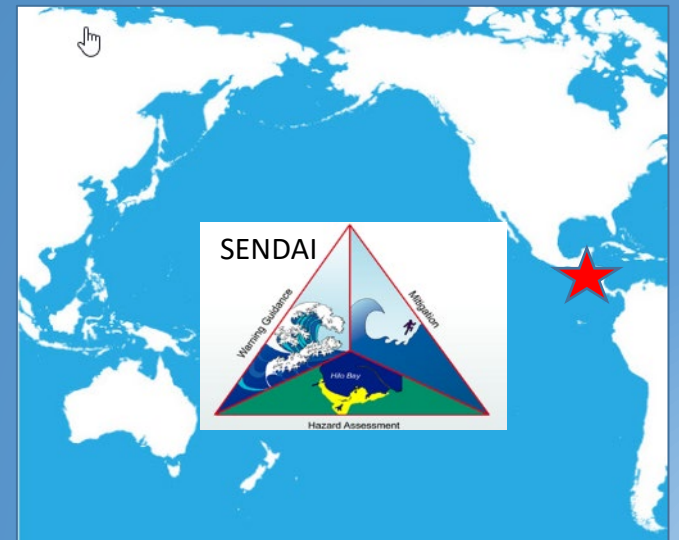




# ICG/PTWS XXVIII

Hosted by Nicaragua,  
2-5 April, 2019.

Attended by 63 representatives  
including those from 21 Member  
States.



# Decisions of ICG/PTWS XXVIII



- Establishment of a Working Group 2 Task Team to propose minimum **competency levels for National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC)** operations staff;
- Establishment of a Working Group 2 Task Team to propose an optimal **multi-instrument sensor network** that integrates existing and emerging techniques and sensor technologies, for tsunami detection and characterisation;
- Decision to organise and conduct the exercise **Pacific Wave 2020** (PacWave 2020) in the months September to November 2020 ; to be conducted as a series of regional exercises organised through the PTWS regional working groups;
- Recommendation to Member States with **GNSS data** to investigate the means of sharing this data in real time, with a view towards and benefits of improved tsunami impact forecasts for coastlines particularly for near-field events;
- Full operation of **TSP SCSTAC**, from 5 November 2019
- Trial operation of **CATAC** starting in August 2019

# COVID-19



Watchstander processing Earthquake recordings at CATAC, Nicaragua,

- Many fell ill
- There was limited negative impact in the functioning of the monitoring networks in some countries.
- Despite the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemy the different structures of the PTWS continued working, successfully (PTWC, ISP's, NTWC's, Working Groups, ITIC, ..)
- Many worked from home.
- Meetings/Exercises were mainly carried out remotely
- We learned to use Zoom and other comm software.

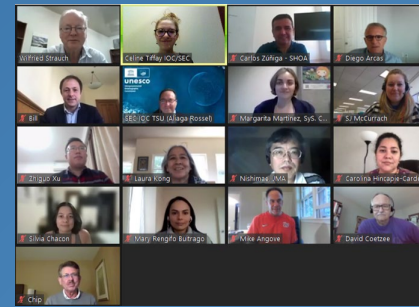
# Progress made in intersessional work



- Work of PTWC, TSP's, NTWC's, ITIC
- Meetings and work of the Working Groups and Task Teams
- Meetings of the ICG/PTWS Steering Committee
- Participation at the meetings of the TOWS
- PacWave 2020
- Tsunami Ready Initiative
- Expert Meetings to understand tsunami risk
- Tsunami Days (5 Nov)
- Tsunami Decade Project Statement, Participation, Scientific Committee

# ICG/PTWS Steering Committee Meeting

21-23 September 2021, Online  
Activities proposed



- Identify and implement techniques to more quickly recognize and properly characterize the earthquake and tsunami threat (there will be a special session at the Fall 2021 AGU Meeting),
- Develop a technical proposal to expand the PTWS EMZ to include part of the southern Atlantic Ocean that encompasses the Scotia Arc and its adjacent seismic zones.
- Recommend at the ICG/PTWS XXIX Meeting in November 2021 for CATAAC to become a fully operational TSP.
- A final document must be prepared for ICG/PTWS XXIX Meeting for it to endorse CATAAC as a fully operational TSP.
- TSPs will define more clearly, in their respective User Guides, procedures for issuing products when the earthquake is located outside of a TSP's coastal area of service.
- WG1 and ITIC to provide Guidelines for use of TsuCat (e.g. planning vs response).



# ICG/PTWS Steering Committee Meeting 21-23 September 2021, Online, cont..



## PACWAVE

- TT PacWave will compile and summarize good practices for planning, conducting, and evaluating virtual exercises, and include in the PacWave22 Exercise Manual
- TT PacWave to send further information on the PacWave informational video
- TT PacWave to explore more automatic and efficient ways to compile the information prior to October 2022
- TT PacWave will inquire about and confirm the dates of IOWave
- The communications test of PacWave 2022 will be held on 13 October 2022 and countries must report their test results 10 days after the exercise
- The current name of the TT of “PacWave 20” will be changed to “PacWave” – this will be changed in the terms of reference and name of the TT for approval at PTWS XXIX.

ICG/PTWS Steering Committee Meeting  
21-23 September 2021, Online, cont..



## UN DECADE OF OCEAN SCIENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PTWS PARTICIPATION

- Participation in the Scientific Committee
- The ad hoc TT will draft a recommendation for submission to the ICG/PTWS-XXIX.