



**Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean
Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System
(ICG/IOTWMS)**

**Regional Working Group
North-West Indian Ocean**

Chair: Dr Mohammad Mokhtari (Iran)

Vice Chair: Ms V Sunanda Manneela (India)

Terms-of-Reference

Liaise with other working group(s) and task team(s) within the ICG/IOTWMS and with working groups from the other ocean basins through the TOWS-WG to:

1. In collaboration with IOC-UNESCO IOTIC and IOC-UNESCO Secretariat for the ICG/IOTWMS, evaluate capabilities and identify capacity building requirements of Member States in the region for providing end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation services within the framework of the ICG/IOTWMS and within a multi-hazard framework
2. In collaboration Working Group 1 "Tsunami Risk, Community Awareness and Preparedness", promote and facilitate tsunami hazard and risk assessments and research in the region, including for tsunamis generated by non-seismic and complex sources.
3. In collaboration with Working Group 3 "Tsunami Ready Implementation", support implementation of IOC-UNESCO TRRP or similar activities across the region to help make at-risk communities resilient and prepared for tsunamis
4. In collaboration with Working Group 3 "Tsunami Ready Implementation", facilitate sharing of experiences between Member State Tsunami Ready Focal Points (TRFPs) on Tsunami Ready implementation
5. Facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of seismic, sea level and GNSS stations and networks and communication systems in the region
6. Facilitate the timely sharing of tsunami-related data and information in the region
7. Establish and maintain procedures for National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWCs) across the region to exchange information on national tsunami warnings, observations, and impacts during events.
8. Support the implementation of IOWAVE Exercises and other similar drills across the region and encourage all Member States to participate at full level (from issuing warnings to the evacuation of the public in selected regions, at least in tsunami-ready pilot regions).

The Group will be composed of members representing NTWC and Tsunami Ready Focal Point from each of the Member States of India, Iran, Oman, Pakistan, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen in the North-West Indian Ocean region and invited observers, with a chairperson and vice-chairperson to be elected.

ICG/IOTWMS requests the Regional Working Group for North-West Indian Ocean to:

1. Address the recommendations of the 2018 Capacity Assessment of Tsunami Preparedness in the Indian Ocean;
2. Follow up the recommendations contained in the IOWave20 Exercise Report;
3. Support further strengthening of tsunami warning chains, improvement of SOPs of DMOs and Broadcast Media, and timelines in passing the information between multiple stakeholders;
4. Include complex sources in national tsunami early warnings;
5. Utilise proposed UNESCAP project Phase 2c to develop hazard, inundation and evacuation maps for agreed pilot areas in pathway towards Tsunami Read recognition;
6. Employ unified tsunami modelling approach developed by UNESCAP project;
7. Encourage all Member States to participate at full level (from issuing warnings to the evacuation of the public in selected regions, at least in tsunami-ready pilot areas) in upcoming drills (IOWave Exercise).

Rules and Conditions for

ICG/IOTWMS Working Groups and Task Teams

The following rules and conditions apply to all working groups and Task Teams of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning & Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS):

1. Working language: English
2. Frequency of meetings: During inter-sessional period of the ICG/IOTWMS
3. Coordination and elections: Following the rules of procedures applying to IOC subsidiary bodies, unless elected by the ICG/IOTWMS, a chair and at least one vice-chair will be elected by the members of the working group or task team for two years with possible re-election of one term in the same position
4. Members and appointment: Nominated by Heads of ICG/IOTWMS National Delegations and/or Tsunami National Contacts of Member States in accordance with the rules of procedures applying to IOC subsidiary bodies. Technical experts and observers can be invited at the discretion of the chair
5. Duration of the working group and task teams: Two years, renewable subject to review by the ICG/IOTWMS
6. Programme of inter-sessional work is guided by its Terms-of-Reference decided by the ICG/IOTWMS and actions requested by the ICG/IOTWMS
7. Inter-sessional work is generally conducted by email and teleconference, in addition to at least one face-to-face meeting subject to availability of members and budget
8. Reports: A progress report must be submitted to the Secretariat two months before each ICG session and within two months of each working group or task team meeting with the assistance of the Secretariat.
9. Financial resources: Participation in the working groups and task teams, including attendance at meetings, will be at national expense.