

Mauritius

Scenarios Exercised:

- Andaman Trench (4 Oct)
- Heard Island (18 Oct)
- Makran Trench (11 Oct)
- Java Trench (25 Oct)



National Crisis Committee, under the chairperson of the Hon. Vice Prime Minister, Minister responsible for Disaster Risk Management, met at 10h00 to take cognizance of the situation and to take timely decisions regarding evacuation of vulnerable coastal areas.



Evacuation exercise at Quatre-Soeurs Village, South-East of Mauritius

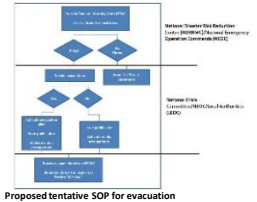
Images Credit: NDRRMC/DC Grand Port

National Tsunami Warning & Mitigation System

The **Mauritius Meteorological Services** is the main warning agency for Tsunami in the Republic of Mauritius. The Tsunami Warning System in Mauritius has taken into consideration the degree of risk as well as the time factor. In virtue of its geographical location, Mauritius and Rodrigues have a lead-time of 5-7 hours before tsunami waves are likely to reach their coasts from either the Indonesian or the Makran source. The warning system consists of the following stages: Tsunami Watch, Tsunami Warning and Termination.

Main organisations involved during a Tsunami: **Mauritius Meteorological Services, National Disaster Risk Reduction & Management Centre/National Emergency Operation Command, Local Authorities, Mauritius Police Force, Ministry responsible for the subject of Health and Quality of Life, Mauritius Fire Rescue Services amongst others.**

In the event of a Tsunami, the **National Crisis Committee**, which consist of members of high officials, will meet soonest possible to take decisive actions, especially with regards to evacuation of vulnerable coastal areas, based on simulated inundation maps provided by the Mauritius Meteorological Services.



National Organisation of Exercise IOWave23

Chronology of Warnings issued by Mauritius Meteorological Services (NTWC)

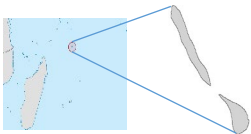
SN	TYPE OF BULLETIN	TIME OF ISSUE (LOCAL TIME)
1	EARTHQUAKE INFORMATION	0608
2	TSUNAMI WATCH BULL NO 1	0625
3	TSUNAMI WARNING BULL NO 2	0642
4	TSUNAMI WARNING BULL NO 3	0830
5	TSUNAMI WARNING BULL NO 4	1025
6	TSUNAMI WARNING BULL NO 5	1320
7	TSUNAMI WARNING BULL NO 6	1505
8	TERMINATION BULL NO 7	1810

Summary of Exercise

- NEOC Level I** activated at 0651 hrs and upgraded to level III at 07.35 hrs under instructions of OIC NDRRMC.
- LEOCs: Port Louis and Savanne** activated at 08.30 hrs, **Grand Port and Black River and Riv du Rempart** at 0900 hrs, **Pamplemousses** at 0905hrs.
- Rodrigues: REOC** activated at 0730 hrs.
- National Crisis Committee** chaired by Hon M.A Husnoo, Vice Prime Minister held on 25th October 2023 at 10.30 hrs at Main conference room NDRRMC.
- Evacuation: simulated 29742 people** evacuated, including 77 from Agalega and 46 from St Brandon, 3618 in Rodrigues and 26,001 in Mauritius.
- Tourism Sector:** Messages blast targeting about 20 000 licensees released by the tourism sector
- Port:** All vessels have been notified to leave the harbour for high seas by MPA
- Termination** of Tsunami Warning for Mauritius, Rodrigues and St. Brandon issued at 18 10 Hours.

Exercise Participants

SN	Agency	Activities
1	District Councils of Flacq & Grand-Port Evacuation Exercise at Quatre-Soeurs (About 50 inhabitants)	Use of Quatre-Soeurs Refuge Centre
2	District Council of Savanne Evacuation Exercise at Rivière des Galets (60 inhabitants)	Use of Chamouny Village Hall as Evacuee centre.
3	Rodrigues (Approx. 220 inhabitants)	Pointe Cotton (50 inhabitants), Graviers (100 inhabitants) and St Francois (70 inhabitants)



Lessons Learnt

- To ensure proper dissemination of warnings from MMS.
- To ensure submission of Situation Reports by Local Authorities.
- To ensure familiarisation and proper filling of disaster related statistics forms.
- To ensure realistic reporting from Mauritius Port Authority, Ministry responsible for Education amongst others.
- To focus on post-impacts roles, responsibilities and actions
- To ensure arrangements made by Central Water Authority for provision of water in affected coastal regions.
- To ensure that Mauritius Fire Rescue Services complete all pumping in impacted residential areas.
- To ensure evacuee centres can accommodate disabled, senior citizen, babies amongst others.
- To ensure if vulnerable health centres/hospitals are evacuated.

Organisation Logo(s)



Further Information:

Please send to UNESCO-IOC IOTIC and ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat:

1. Videos of activities undertaken in IOWave23

Videos of exercise performed at Shandrani Hotel, DC GrandPort-Flacq and Savanne have been attached in email

2. Links to social media (X, Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn) related to IOWave23

Not available

3. Links to online media related to news and coverage of IOWave23

<https://lematinal.media/tsunami-maurice-participe-a-lexercice-regional-de-simulation-iowave-23/>

<https://www.maurice-info.mu/2023/10/27/iowave-23.html>

TV News

<https://mbcradio.tv/article/le-journal-t%C3%A9vis%C3%A9-octobre-25-2023>

<https://mbcradio.tv/article/zournal-rodriques-octobre-25-2023>