

Recommendation ICG/PTWS-XXX.7

Minimum competency levels for National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) operations staff

The Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS),

Recalling the requests from Pacific Island Countries in 2016 and at the Twenty-seventh Session of the ICG/PTWS-XXVII in 2017 for the PTWS Working Group Two to establish minimum competency levels for NTWC operations,

Recalling the Draft NTWC Competency Framework shared at the Twenty-eighth Session of the ICG/PTWS-XVIII in 2019, and the establishment of the Task Team on the Minimum Competency Levels for National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) Operational Staff established under PTWS Working Group Two during this Session,

Recalling further the establishment of the Task Team on Capacity Development established under PTWS Regional Working Group for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories on Tsunami and Mitigation at Twenty-eighth Session of the ICG/PTWS-XXVII in 2019, to continue the development of a competency framework for National Tsunami Warning Centres personnel and pilot it in Australia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga, and report progress and lessons learned to ICG/PTWS WG 1, 2 and 3,

Appreciating the initiative of Tonga, ITIC, PTWC, and IOC to pilot the Draft NTWC Competency Framework with the Tonga Meteorological and Geological Services and the Solomon Islands Meteorological Services in Nuku'alofa, Tonga in October 2019,

Appreciating feedback to the PTWS NTWC Competency Framework from Task Team on Capacity Development Report to the Ninth Session of PTWS PICT WG in February 2023,

Noting the TOWS WG-XV (2022) request to its Inter-ICG Task Teams on Disaster Management and Preparedness and Tsunami Watch Operations to consider development of guidelines for a global NTWC competency framework based on the available set of documents and Pacific input, noting that implementation can be at a regional level,

Noting the TOWS WG-XVI (2023) appreciation of the intersessional progress of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS) to develop a National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) Competency Framework (2019), and the ITIC's leadership to pilot training courses based on the Framework,

Noting the TOWS WG-XVI (2023) instruction to the regional ICG, notably the PTWS, and the ITIC to pilot the PTWS National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) Competency Framework for endorsement by ICG/PTWS with the goal to develop a global framework for all ICGs to use,

Noting the United Nations *Early Warning 4 All* and *Weather Ready Pacific Programme* includes the need for timely and effective tsunami warnings in order to save lives, and the strategic importance of partnerships (e.g., IOC-WMO),

Recommends the approval of the PTWS National Tsunami Warning Centre competencies, framework, and training requirements, as described in IOC ICG/PTWS-XXX Working Document (Agenda 4.5) Report from the Task Team on the Minimum Competency Levels for National Tsunami Warning Centre (NTWC) Operational Staff.

Welcomes the ITIC proposal to pilot the PTWS Minimum NTWC Competency Framework through the development and conduct of a training course during the intersessional period, and report back on its outcome to the Thirty-first Session of the ICG/PTWS.

Recommends the ICG/PTWS WG 2 to report on the use of the Framework by Member States during the intersessional period to the Thirty-first Session of the ICG/PTWS.