Recommendations of the Task Team on Tsunami Exercises

TT-TE recommends:

1. To reschedule the next NEAMWave tsunami exercise and plan for its execution in 2026 (NEAMWave26), considering the timeline for Tsunami Ready activities within the CoastWAVE Project Phase 2.0, and facilitating the implementation of full-scale Phase B exercises by the project Member States;
2. To organize the NEAMWave exercise with a more flexible schedule, featuring one or two scenarios per week (based on the total number of scenarios), rather than condensing all scenarios into consecutive days;
3. To develop exercise scenarios through collaboration between TSPs and NTWCs, ensuring that the messages are tailored to address the specific needs of the MS;
4. TSPs to co-operate and prepare one or more joint exercise scenarios and make the exercise more challenging in such a way that they can disseminate different alert messages for the same joint exercise scenario;
5. To revise and enhance the online tools (subscription and evaluation) to make them more user-friendly. The subscription process should be streamlined to more effectively capture participant numbers, and simplified by explicitly requesting "new" contact details for the exercise when necessary and allowing the registration of new participants beyond the current subscribers to TSPs’ services;
6. To base the statistics and assessment of participation in the exercise solely on the evaluation forms, rather than the subscription forms;
7. To investigate the potential for further testing of the use of Galileo EWS for message dissemination. NEAMWave Exercise Manual should be updated to illustrate the termination of fax message dissemination, while other dissemination methods like SMSs, CAP-TSU or automated phone calls should be explored, in order to evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of non-internet-based methods, as alternative dissemination ways of sharing information;
8. To organize NEAMWave Preparation Meeting(s) between the TT-TE Exercise Team and targeted participant groups, like TSPs, TWFPs, CPAs etc. prior to the exercise for explaining the details of exercise scenarios and discussing on the progress of NEAMWave activities;
9. To organize online meetings with ERCC for discussing about the best practices in the implementation of Phase C, such as definition of minimum criteria for implementing Phase C, keeping the contact list of the national contact points up to date, etc;
10. TNCs of Member States to encourage Civil Protection Authorities in their country to participate in future NEAMWave exercises;
11. Simplifying the NEAMWave Final Evaluation Reports to improve efficiency and make them more user-friendly;
12. Limiting the content and length of TSPs Final Evaluation Reports to specific bullet points, including a summary of exercise performance, along with suggestions and recommendations;
13. To change the name of Task Team on Tsunami Exercise to Task Team on NEAMWave Exercise (TT-NEAMWave), following the practice in other ICGs.

Terms of Reference of the ICG/NEAMTWS Task Team on Tsunami Exercise

Mandate (updated)

The Task Team will:

i. Collaborate with TSPs and NTWCs for the preparation of exercise scenarios;

ii. Support the ICG/NEAMTWS Secretariat to finalize NEAMWave23 Evaluation report;

ii. Work on the preparations of the next NEAMWave exercise, in cooperation with the exercise team;

iii. Update the NEAMWave Exercise Manual and online forms for subscription and evaluation, in collaboration with the ICG/NEAMTWS Secretariat;

iv. Support the ICG/NEAMTWS Secretariat in the organization of online meetings for exercise preparation.

General Decisions

(ICG) Decides:

* To organize the next NEAMWave exercise in March 2026. The exercise scenarios should be created through collaboration between TSPs and NTWCs, with one or more single or joint scenarios proposed to meet the specific needs of the MS.
* To change the name of the Task Team to “NEAMWave Exercise”.