

Ref : IOC/TSR/25.032/ON/ah

29 January 2025

Subject: Tenth Meeting of the PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (WG-PICTs) and its Task Teams, 26–27 February 2025

Dear ICG/PTWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) for Australia, Cooks Islands, Fiji, France (New Caledonia & French Polynesia), New Zealand, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, United States of America, Vanuatu, and ICG/PTWS Chair and Vice-Chairs,

At its 30th Session in September 2023, the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS) decided to maintain with revised terms of reference three of its subsidiary bodies: Pacific Island Countries and Territories Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation (PICT-WG); and its Task Team on Capacity Development (TTCD), Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific (TTSDSWP), and Task Team on Information Sharing Platforms ([ICG/PTWS-XXX Executive Summary](#)).

The PICT-WG and three Task Teams are holding hybrid meetings on 26–27 February 2025 at Lava Conference Room in Apia (Samoa) and will report to the 31st Session of the ICG/PTWS on 7–11 April 2025 in Beijing (China). These series of meetings is a component of the Regional Geohazard Workshop that includes the closed meeting on the Oceania Regional Seismic Network ([ORSNET](#)) on Monday 25 February 2025 and the Melanesia Volcano Network on 26 February 2025 and the Regional Geohazards Strategy Planning Workshop on 28 February 2025. Zoom platform link for remote participation are provided in the table below.

C.c. : Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States: Australia, Cooks Islands, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, and Vanuatu
Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC)
International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC)
Permanent Observers to ICG/PTWS
UNESCO Office in Apia

Chairperson

Yutaka MICHIDA, Prof.
Special Presidential Envoy
for UN Ocean Decade
The University of Tokyo (Atmosphere
and Ocean Research Institute)
Kashiwanoha 5-1-5
2778564 Kashiwa
JAPAN

Vice-Chairpersons

Dr Marie-Alexandrine SICRE
Directrice de Recherche
Centre national de la recherche scientifique
(CNRS)
3 rue Michel Ange
75016 Paris
FRANCE

Dr Nikolay VALCHEV
Director
Institute of Oceanology
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
40 Parvi May Str.
9000 Varna
BULGARIA

Mr Juan Camilo FORERO HAUZEUR
Executive Secretary
Colombian Ocean Commission (COO)
Avenida Ciudad de Cali No. 51 – 66
Edificio WBC, Oficina 306
111071 Bogotá, D.C.
COLOMBIA

Prof. Amr Zakaria HAMOUDA
President of Marine Hazards Mitigation Center
(MHMC)
National Institute of
Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF)
Qaitbay, Al-Anfoshi
Alexandria
EGYPT

Executive Secretary

Mr Vidar HELGESEN
Intergovernmental Oceanographic
Commission — UNESCO
7 Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP
FRANCE

Meeting Title	Date	Time (UTC)	Online Registration Link
9 th Meeting Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific	26 Feb. 2025	21:30-23:30	https://unesco-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/MY5qo2-5Q8OemP3kpJUkJQ
1 st Meeting of Task Team on Information Data Sharing	26 Feb. 2025	00:30-2:30	https://unesco-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/BtPmRIIQSE-19rFYTbR1Rg
9 th Meeting Task Team on Capacity Development	26 Feb. 2025	3:00-5:00	https://unesco-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/NJxUpp2YRFunGiq7C_xoRw
10 th Meeting of ICG/PTWS WG-PICT	26–27 Feb. 2025	19:30-04:00	https://unesco-org.zoom.us/meeting/register/K57oCaZWTda860R_8BckRg

The following PICTs are IOC Members: Australia, Cooks Islands, Fiji, France, New Zealand, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom, United States of America, and Vanuatu.

Through this Letter, Tsunami National Contacts (TNCs) of the above-mentioned countries are invited to nominate their delegate(s) to the ICG/PTWS/WG-PICTs and its Task Teams meetings according to their composition detailed below. Nominations should be sent by email to Mr Ocal Necmioglu, ICG/PTWS Technical Secretary by 14 February 2025 (att. o.necmioglu@unesco.org copied to Jiuta Korovulavula, IOC NPO, Suva Regional Office, Fiji, j.korovulavula@unesco.org).

The enclosed provisional agendas for the abovementioned meetings were prepared by the Secretariat in coordination with the Chairs and Vice-Chairs. Further information on meeting arrangements will be provided in due course via e-mail.

All relevant information regarding the meetings including documentation and presentations as well as the list of participants will be made available at the following website: <https://oceanexpert.org/event/4690#agenda>

The **PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs** has the following Terms of Reference:

1. To continually review and evaluate capabilities of and make recommendations for improvements to countries in the Pacific Islands and Territories (PICT) Region for providing end to-end tsunami warning and mitigation services.
2. To support the involvement and contribution of PICT countries in the activities of the ICG/PTWS.
3. To promote and facilitate the tsunami hazard and risk studies in the PICT region.
4. To facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of seismic and sea level stations and networks in the region, and the interoperability of these systems in accordance with ICG/PTWS requirements.
5. To facilitate training and capacity building in the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system in the region.
6. To encourage the sharing of tsunami information, including but not limited to the free and open exchange of data.

7. To facilitate tsunami awareness in school curricula, and development and dissemination of public educational materials.
8. To work in cooperation with PTWS Working Groups 2 & 3, and relevant task teams especially on activities that strengthen country capacity in tsunami warning, risk mitigation and emergency response.

The ICG/PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs is comprised of representatives from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) as members, Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) Agencies and WMO Regional Association V (RA V) as observers with one Chair and one Vice-Chair to be elected by the members of the Working Group and endorsed by the ICG/PTWS. ICG/PTWS at its 30th Session elected Ms Eslie Garaebiti (Vanuatu) as Chair and Mr Mathew Moihoi (Papua New Guinea) as Co-chair of the Working Group.

The **PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific** has the following Terms of Reference:

1. To advocate seismic data sharing in the region.
2. To advise Southwest Pacific countries on data sharing protocols, techniques and technologies.
3. To work with SWP countries and donors to ensure a common data sharing policy.
4. To ensure the recommendations of the ICG/PTWS-XXIII Sessional Working Group on Data Exchange in the Southwest Pacific are achieved.

The ICG/PTWS WG2 Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific is comprised of representatives of National Tsunami Warning Centres and Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) Agencies and WMO Regional Association (RAV) as observers with Mr Rennie Vaiomounga (Tonga) and Mr Mathew Moihoi (PNG) elected as Co-Chairs.

The **PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs Task Team on Capacity Development** has the following Terms of Reference:

1. To continue the development of competency framework for National Tsunami Warning Centers personnel and pilot in Australia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga and report progress and lessons learnt to ICG/PTWS WG1, 2, and 3.
2. To continue to monitor and coordinate the Pilot Tsunami Ready Program and TEMPP in Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu and review Tsunami Ready Checklist for schools and communities in PICT.
3. To continue to develop the guideline for National Tsunami Warning Centers in responding to local tsunami and report to WG 1, 2 and 3; and
4. To develop an online survey of warning and mitigation capabilities in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (Member countries and IOC).

The Task Team Members: Australia, Tonga (Co-Chair), Vanuatu, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Fiji, PNG, ITIC (Co-chair), SPREP, SPC, IOC, PTWC.

The **PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the PICTs Task Team Information Sharing Platforms** has the following Terms of Reference:

1. Propose a WG-PICT regional PacWave24 objective.
2. Based on Pacwave22 report, re-evaluate early /anticipatory information to be shared between NTWC and NDMO and which platform would be more adapted for each kind of information.
3. WhatsApp Guidelines;

- Maintain the mobile contact list up to date in order to keep the PacWave22 group alive.
 - Obtain official mobile numbers of NTWC and NDMO (handle by IOC/UNESCO Secretariat)
 - guideline for messages sent on WhatsApp
4. HF-Radio Guidelines:
 - Fetch feedback from monthly test and recommend preliminary guidelines.
 - Membership of the task team is open to any technical communication expert on this platform
 5. Email Listserv Guidelines:
 - guideline for messages shared by email (no acknowledgement, etc.)
 - Update and add new e-mail into the Pacwave22 listserv handled by ITIC
 6. Identify and list new and relevant platform for Information Sharing
 - Other social media (Signal, ...)
 - Mobile App Broadcast system
 - Dedicated (private) broadcasting information webpage.

Thank you for your kind attention.



Öcal Necmioğlu
Technical Secretary of ICG/PTWS
and ICG/CARIBE-EWS

- Enclosures: Annex 1: Provisional Agenda and Timetable – 10th Meeting of PTWS Regional — Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICT)
- Annex 2: Provisional Agenda and Timetable – PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) Task Team Seismic Data Sharing
- Annex 3: Provisional Agenda and Timetable – PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) Task Team Capacity Development
- Annex 4: Provisional Agenda and Timetable - PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) Task Team Information Sharing Platform.

Annex 1: Tenth Meeting of the PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs)

Apia, Samoa

27 February 2025

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND OPENING OF SESSION
2. ORGANIZATION OF SESSION
3. REPORT OF INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
 - 3.1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT
 - 3.2 SECRETARIAT REPORT
 - 3.3 REPORT OF TASK TEAM SEISMIC DATA SHARING
 - 3.4 REPORT OF TASK TEAM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
 - 3.5 REPORT OF TASK TEAM INFORMATION SHARING PLATFORM
4. POLICY MATTERS
 - 4.1 TSUNAMI READY RECOGNITION PROGRAMME
 - 4.2 SMART CABLE [Vanuatu and New Caledonia]
 - 4.3 TSUNAMI GENERATED BY VOLCANOES
5. NEXT MEETING
6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
8. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
9. CLOSURE

Annex 2: PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) Task Team Seismic Data Sharing

Apia, Samoa

26 February 2025

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND OPENING OF SESSION
2. ORGANIZATION OF SESSION
3. REPORT OF INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
 - 3.1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT - UPDATE OF TOR AND FACT SHEET
 - 3.2 ORSNET REPORT
 - 3.3 VOLCANO REPORT
4. POLICY MATTERS
 - 4.1 OTHER TSUNAMI OBSERVATION OPERATIONS
 - 4.1.1 INTEGRATION OF PTWS SENSORS NETWORKS FOR TSUNAMI DETECTION AND CHARACTERIZATION
 - 4.1.1.1 PACIFIC ISLANDS – GLOBAL OCEAN OBSERVATION SYSTEM (PI – GOSS) [TIDE GAUGES]
5. NEXT MEETING
6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
8. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
9. CLOSURE

**Annex 3: Provisional Agenda and Timetable - PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami
Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) Task Team
Capacity Development
Apia, Samoa**

26 February 2025

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND OPENING OF SESSION
2. ORGANIZATION OF SESSION
3. REPORT OF INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
 - 3.1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT – UPDATE OF TOR AND FACT SHEET
 - 3.2 REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON TOR
4. POLICY MATTERS
 - 4.1 UNESCO-IOC TSUNAMI READY PROGRAMME
 - 4.2 PTWS TSUNAMI PREPAREDNESS CAPACITY ASSESSMENT (ESCAP PHASE II)
5. NEXT MEETING
6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
8. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
9. CLOSURE

Annex 4: Provisional Agenda and Timetable – PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) Task Team on Information Sharing Platform

26th February 2025

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND OPENING OF SESSION
2. ORGANIZATION OF SESSION
3. REPORT OF INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES
 - 3.1 CHAIRPERSON REPORT – REVIEW OF TOR AND FACT SHEET
 - 3.2 REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON TOR
4. POLICY MATTERS
 - 4.1 INFORMATION SHARING PLATFORMS
5. NEXT MEETING
6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS
7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
8. ADOPTION OF DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
9. CLOSURE