

**REGIONAL WORKING GROUP ON TSUNAMI WARNING AND MITIGATION SYSTEM IN THE SOUTH EAST
PACIFIC REGION (WG-SEP)**

REPORT OF INTERSESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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This report of the South East Pacific Regional Working Group (SEP-WG) covers the intersessional period from ICG/PTWS XXX to the ICG/PTWS-XXXI session in April 2025 held in Beijing, China.

1. BACKGROUND

The following Terms of Reference were established for Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System in the Southeast Pacific Region at ICG/PTWS Session XXVIII for the group:

- a. To enhance regional capabilities in the South East Pacific Region for the Detection, Assessment, Warning and Dissemination of tsunami events, based on lessons learned and global trends, to improve opportunities for the National Tsunami Warning Centers (NTWC) following the Sendai framework priorities as a reference.
- b. To facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of seismic and sea level stations and networks and communication systems in the region, and their interoperability in accordance with ICG/PTWS requirements, through the active participation of appropriate national delegates from Member States, in the Working Group 2: Tsunami Detection, Warning and Dissemination.
- c. To improve communication channels between the countries, according to the regional communications protocol established under Permanent Commission of the South Pacific (CPPS), through periodical tests using redundant systems.
- d. To evaluate the merits of implementing the Tsunami Ready Equivalency Approach or the IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme in the region.
- e. To promote regional activities and join projects considering in-region capacity building and enhancing disaster preparedness for response as main efforts, according the priorities number 1 and 4 of the Sendai frameworks.
- f. To facilitate capacity building and the sharing of sea level information among others, including free and open exchange of data.
- g. To improve educational programs with regional criteria based on social, cultural and economic reality, through active participation of national delegates from Member States, in the Working Group 3: Disaster Risk Management and Preparedness.
- h. To develop synergies with universities and academic centers to promote and facilitate regional tsunami research in order to cope with regional needs.

The Group will be composed of representatives nominated by the Member States of Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Perú, with a Chair and a Vice-Chair from each country rotating every two years, following an alphabetical order. In this context, the Vice-Chair will assume regional presidency for the coming period.

2. ACTIVITIES REPORT:

2.1 Meetings:

2.1.1 Annual regional meeting. December 2023. ICG/PTWS XXX Meeting Activities Report.

Turnover of Chair: From Chile to Ecuador

Turnover of vice-Chair: From Ecuador to Perú

2.1.2 Regular virtual meetings March 19th (2024), may 14th (2024). The main objective of these meetings was to plan activities for the region, coordinate regional exercises, projects or proposals for cooperation between countries within the region and other working groups.

2.2 Presential meeting

2.2.1 Annual regional meeting 2024: Report of activities working group. Annual Activities planning: Meeting, exercises, communication exercises, updating protocol of CNAT: Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Perú. This meeting of the Group was hosted by the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific (CPPS). 16 - 17 August 2024. Valparaiso, Chile.

Steering Committee Meeting of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS) 2024: Report of working South East Pacific Region. 16 - 20 September 2024. Honolulu, Hawaii.

2.3 Regional Exercises:

2.3.1 The first regional exercise was held in May 16, 2024. All Member States of the WG-SEP executed an Operational Exercise organized by Ecuador and Perú, proposing a scenario with a significant magnitude off the coast of the Gulf of Alaska (9.2 Mw).

2.3.2 The second regional exercise was held in June 19, 2024, organized by Colombia - Ecuador, with a scenario off the coast of Nicaragua (9.2 Mw).

2.3.3 Pacific Wave 2024 (PACWAVE24) exercise, organized by Chile and Perú. The activity had two scenarios: Off the central coast of Perú (first scenario) 9.1 Mw, Off the south coast of Perú, 8.3 Mw. For this exercise the GT-ATPS invited Mexico to take part.

2.4 Other activities

2.4.1 Annual Tsunami Experts Meeting. 13th March 2024.

2.4.2 Training communities, naval personnel on tsunamis prevention.

2.4.4 National Tsunami Drill with the participation of Risk Management Agencies and Seismology institutes.

2.4.5 ITIC Training Program (ITP): This program was developed in Valparaiso, Chile with representatives from 19 countries. The objective of the program is to strengthen response capacities of countries through preventive and scientific work on monitoring and alert of tsunamigenic events, and the cooperation of countries to

manage this type of disasters.

This event was organized in collaboration with COI, ITIC and SHOA from 19th to 30th of August 2025. Valparaíso - Chile.

- 2.4.2 Regional video about the GT-ATPS activities. November 5th.
- 2.4.3 CNAT activities: Activities to raise awareness communities about tsunamis. November 5th.
- 2.4.5 Implementation of new technologies for development of tsunami material, information and dissemination.
- 2.4.6 Elaborate Tsunami Hazard Maps for communities along the coast.

2.5 Planned activities:

- 2.5.1 Regional virtual meeting.
- 2.5.2 First regional exercise, Chile – Colombia organizers.
- 2.5.3 Second regional exercise, Ecuador – Perú organizers.
- 2.5.4 November 5th regional activities coordination.
- 2.5.5 In-person meeting.
- 2.5.6 Turnover of Chair and Vicechair to Perú and Colombia, respectively.
- 2.5.7 Promote the Certification of Tsunami ready communities (region).
- 2.5.8 Manage projects for the region in cooperation with Tsunami System Members to improve Tsunami monitoring and mapping technologies.