



Intergovernmental Coordination Group

Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning & Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS)

Pre-IOWave25 Webinar for NAVAREA Coordinators: Strengthening Maritime Tsunami Alerting Mechanism

Tuesday 21 October 2025 at 0400-0600 UTC

MS Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

1.0 Background

The Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/IOTWMS) of UNESCO-IOC, plays a pivotal role in ensuring provision of timely tsunami forecast information across the Indian Ocean region through a network of 3 Tsunami Service Providers (Australia, India, Indonesia) and National Tsunami Warning Centres / Tsunami Warning Focal Points in 27 Indian Ocean Member States

The Working Group on Tsunamis and Other Hazards Related to Sea-Level Warning and Mitigation Systems (TOWS-WG) of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC) through extensive consultations with the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub-Committee (WWNWS-SC) has facilitated the development of a standardized framework for tsunami service messages tailored to the maritime community. The IOC recommended that all ICGs adopt protocols to ensure Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) issue timely and consistent tsunami messages to NAVAREA Coordinators within their region for dissemination to maritime stakeholders. NAVAREA Coordinators would then convert these TSP messages into maritime safety broadcasts (SafetyNet, SafetyCast, or NAVTEX) to rapidly inform ships at sea.

The Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) of the ICG/IOTWMS are now ready to trial the dissemination of maritime bulletins to NAVAREA operators in the IOTWMS Area of Service.

The TSPs intend to produce test products and disseminate them to NAVAREA coordinators during the IOWave25 Exercise (Indian Ocean wide tsunami exercise) scheduled on 05 Nov 2025.

In preparation to the IOWave25 Exercise and to specifically sensitise NAVAREA Coordinators (VII, VIII, IX, X and XI) within the IOTWMS Area of Service of the Maritime products a virtual webinar is scheduled by the ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat on 21 October 2025 between 0400 – 0600 UTC. This webinar will strengthen the interface between TSPs and NAVAREA Coordinators, provide clarity on roles, message protocols, and expected procedures during

IOWave25, and promote alignment with the maritime tsunami message dissemination framework.

2.0 Objectives

The NAVAREA-focused Pre-IOWave25 Webinar aims to:

1. Brief NAVAREA Coordinators on the objectives, dates, and scenarios of Exercise IOWave25.
2. Enhance understanding of tsunami threat messages issued by IOTWMS Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs)
3. Discuss standard operating procedures (SOPs) for receiving, interpreting, and disseminating maritime tsunami warnings.
4. To understand the framework for converting TSP messages into maritime safety alerts.
5. Discuss expectations and procedures for the participation of NAVAREA coordinators during IOWave25 scenarios.
6. Identify areas for strengthening message formatting, coverage, and coordination pathways.
7. Share best practices for coordination between TSPs and NAVAREA Coordinators.

3.0 Target Participants

This focused session invites:

- NAVAREA Coordinators from Indian Ocean Region (NAVAREA VII, VIII, IX, X and XI)
- IHO / WWNWS-SC Representatives
- National Hydrographic Offices and relevant maritime communication experts
- National Tsunami Warning Centres of the NAVAREA Coordinator Member States

4.0 Tentative Agenda (2 Hours)

Time (UTC)	Topic	Speaker(s)
04:00 – 04:15	Opening Remarks - UNESCO-IOC ICG/IOTWMS Secretariat / Chair - IHO / WWNWS-SC Secretariat / Chair	
04:15 - 04:30	Overview of IOTWMS	Secretariat
04:30 – 04:45	Exercise IOWave25 and Scenarios	Task Team
04:45 – 05:15	Overview of TSP Services, Maritime Message Framework, SOPs, Procedures for NAVAREA Message Conversion and Dissemination	TSP Representatives
05:15 – 05:45	Discussion: Readiness, Challenges, and IOWave25 Participation Plan	TSP Representatives /NAVAREA Coordinators

05:45 – 06:00	Summary, Action Points, and Closing Remarks	Chair/Vice ICG/IOTWMS	Chair
---------------	---	--------------------------	-------

5.0 Expected Outcomes

- Improved coordination between TSPs and NAVAREA Coordinators.
- Familiarity with message structures and content for use during IOWave25.
- Strengthened NAVAREA SOPs for receiving and disseminating tsunami warnings.
- Identified areas for improvement and follow-up support for IOWave25.

6.0 Organizers

- UNESCO-IOC Secretariat for ICG/IOTWMS
- Indian Ocean Tsunami Information Centre (IOTIC)
- IOTWMS Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) from Australia, India, and Indonesia
- ICG/IOTWMS Working Group 2
- IHO / WWNWS Sub-Committee