Seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunamis and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
(ICG/CARIBE EWS-V11)

BARBADOS NATIONAL REPORT

BASIC INFORMATION

1. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami National Contact (TNC)

   The person designated by a Member State to an Intergovernmental Coordination Group (ICG) to represent his/her country in the coordination of international tsunami warning and mitigation activities. The person is part of the main stakeholders of the national tsunami warning and mitigation system. The person may be the Tsunami Warning Focal Point, from the national disaster management organization, from a technical or scientific institution, or from another agency with tsunami warning and mitigation responsibilities.

   Name: Dr. Lorna Inniss
   Title: Coastal Zone Management Unit
   Postal Address: Bay Street, St. Michael, Barbados
   Email Address: linniss@coastal.gov.bb
   Telephone Number: 1 246 427-1587 or 1 246 228-5950
   Fax Number: 246 228-5956
   Cellular Number: 1 246 256-3170
   WEB Page: www.coastal.gov.bb

2. ICG/CARIBE EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Point (TWFP)

   The 7x24 contact person, or other official point of contact or address, is available at the national level for rapidly receiving and issuing tsunami event information (such as warnings). The Tsunami Warning Focal Point either is the emergency authority (civil defense or other designated agency responsible for public safety), or has the responsibility of notifying the emergency authority of the event characteristics (earthquake and/or tsunami), in accordance with national standard operating procedures. The Tsunami Warning Focal Point receives international tsunami warnings from the PTWC, or other regional warning centres.

   Name: Mr. Hampton Lovell
   Title: Director
   Responsible Organization: Barbados Meteorological Services
   Postal Address: Grantley Adams International Airport (GAIA Inc.)
   E-mail Address: hampden.lovell@barbados.gov.bb
   Emergency Telephone Number: (246) 428 1910
   Emergency Fax Number: (246) 428-1676
Emergency Cellular Telephone Number: (246) 230-0899

National Tsunami Warning Centre (if different from the above)
Person in Charge:
Title:
Responsible Organization:
Postal Address:
E-mail Address:
Emergency Telephone Number:
Emergency Fax Number:
Emergency Cellular Telephone Number:

3. Tsunami Advisor(s), if applicable
(Person, Committee or Agency Managing Tsunami Mitigation in country)

Name: Judy R. Thomas
Title: Director of Emergency Services
Responsible Organisation: Department of Emergency Management
Postal Address: #30 Warrens Industrial Complex, Warrens, St. Michael, Barbados
E-mail Address: judy.thomas@barbados.gov.bb
Emergency Telephone Number: (After hours) (246) 422-7725
Emergency Fax Number: (246) 421-8612
Emergency Cellular Telephone Number: (246) 230-2693

4. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Local Tsunami (when a local tsunami hazard exists)
For each situation, please provide the following:

• What organization identifies and characterizes tsunamigenic events?
Currently The Pacific Tsunami Warning Centre (PWTC) is responsible for identifying and characterizing tsunamigenic events and disseminating warning information messages on threats to the Warning Focal Point which is the Barbados Meteorological Services who receives the message on the Global Telecommunications System (GTS) and the listed SMS and email recipients

• What is the threshold or criteria for declaring a potential tsunami emergency?
The Barbados Meteorological Service receives the information in the form of a Watch Message, analyses it and determines whether the system should be activated.

• What organization acts on the information provided by the agency responsible for characterizing the potential tsunami threat?
The Department of Emergency Management from where the National Emergency Management System is activated.
• How is the tsunami information (warning, public safety action, etc) disseminated within country? Who is it disseminated to?

There is a Mass Alerting and Dissemination Tsunamis Protocol specifically designed for Barbados using the Mass Media, Radio and Television. Both cellular Vendors also provide texting services to all cellular users, The message is also conveyed on the Emergency Telecommunication System: UHF, VHF and Astro and the use of the emergency services mobile sirens may also be used.

The information is disseminated to the General Public, the Coastal Communities, Tourism and Private Sectors and also the Public Utility Sector. Information passed to the Decision-makers.

• How is the emergency situation terminated?
After an “all Clear is issued by the Warning Focal Point that the threat has passed.

• For Distant Tsunami Procedures:

5. Tsunami Standard Operating Procedures for a Distant Tsunami (when a distant tsunami hazard exists)

For each situation, please provide the following:

• What organization identifies and characterizes tsunamigenic events?
The Barbados Meteorological Services in collaboration with the Coastal Zone Management Unit

• What is the threshold or criteria for declaring a potential tsunami emergency?
The Barbados Meteorological Service receives the information in the form of a Watch Message, analyses it and determines whether the national emergency management system should be activated

• What organization acts on the information provided by the agency responsible for characterizing the potential tsunami threat?
The Department of Emergency Management from where the National Emergency Management System is activated. Informing the Political Directorate, Emergency Services using the mass notification system.

• How is the tsunami information (warning, public safety action, etc) disseminated within country? Who is it disseminated to?
There is a Mass Alerting and Dissemination Tsunamis Protocol specifically designed for Barbados using the Mass Media, Radio and Television. Both cellular Vendors also provide texting services to all cellular users, The message is also conveyed on the Emergency Telecommunication System: UHF, VHF and Astro and the use of the emergency services mobile sirens may also be used.

The information is disseminated to the General Public, the Coastal Communities, Tourism and Private Sectors and also the Public Utility Sector. Information passed to the Decision-makers.
- How is the emergency situation terminated?
  When the “All Clear” is issued by the Warning Focal Point indicating that the threat is over.

- For Distant Tsunami Procedures:

  What actions were taken in response to warnings issued by PTWC, WC/ATWC, and/or JMA NWPTAC during the inter-sessional period?
  No warning was issued in the period under review therefore no action was taken.

6. National Sea Level Network
Please include a table with positions and description of stations/sensors and a map.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>Sensors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposed for Port St. Charles</td>
<td>St. Peter North west Coast</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tide Gauge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados Coast Guard</td>
<td>St. Michael</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tide Gauge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridgetown Port</td>
<td>St. Michael</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tide Gauge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROPOSED GAUGE LOCATION – PORT ST. CHARLES

TIDE GAUGE LOCATION – BRIDGETOWN PORT

TIDE GAUGE LOCATION – BARBADOS COAST GUARD
7. **Information on Tsunami occurrences:**

NONE

*Please include sea level observations, pictures, wave arrival descriptions, public, media, or other responses to warnings, lessons learned, etc.*

8. **Web sites (URLs) of national tsunami-related web sites:**

None. A page on existing websites is contemplated

Information available on CDEMA Web Page [http://www.weready.org](http://www.weready.org)

9. **Summary plans of future tsunami warning and mitigation system improvements.**

*This information will be used to aid the development of the CARIBE EWS Implementation Plan.*

- Proposal has been initiated for support for the National Alerting and Mass Notification System

- Proposal has also been prepared for a 5-Year Public and Awareness Programme.

- Plans have been initiated for the inauguration of the National Emergency Management Council and the National Mitigation Council which will provide administrative oversight of the National Tsunamis Programme by the second quarter of 2012

- Start of implementation of the Coastal Risk Assessment and Management Project providing the scientific basis for the completion of the Hazard and Vulnerability Maps and support the completion of the Coastal Evacuation Plan, Escape routes and the identification of Safe Zones as well as the erection of evacuation signs in coastal communities.

- Coastal Community Vulnerability Assessments are being implemented to provide a profile of communities for inclusion in the National vulnerability Grid.

**NATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES INFORMATION**

10. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Brief statement of no more than one page addressing all items discussed in the Narrative section of the National Report*

The Department in conjunction with the Coastal Zone Management Unit continue to collaborate as chairs of the DEM Standing Committee on Coastal Hazards tasked with the responsibility for the development and implementation of the Tsunamis Programme in Barbados. Emphasis is being placed on the public education and awareness programme regarding this particular hazard with focus on the involvement of coastal communities, the private sector and the youth population.

Attention is also being placed on the further enhancement of the Mass Notification and Alerting Mechanisms by improving the Emergency Telecommunication System. In addition, the scientific information and data requirements necessary to influence and enhance the Programme are being pursued under a US$45million 5-year project.
Detailed description of innovations or modifications to National tsunami warnings procedures or operations since last National Report, tsunami research projects, tsunami mitigation activities and best practices (especially in preparedness and emergency management), as well as public education programmes or other measures taken to heighten awareness of the tsunami hazard and risk.

The Barbados populations has been kept abreast of the Tsunamis hazard through public awareness and education activities targeting coastal communities, via the District Emergency Organizations, the volunteer arm of the National Emergency Management System. Public Lectures were supported by the CZMU and some walks through of coastal communities were undertaken.

On October 13, 2011. Three outreach programmes were implemented targeting primary and secondary schools and well as the Girl Guides Association and the Boy Scouts Association will special emphasis on the Tsunami threat. Public Awareness materials including flyers and posters were distributed as well as the airing of video and audio public service announcements for earthquakes and tsunamis.

The Public Sector umbrella organization, the Barbados Chamber of Commerce were incorporated in the DEM Standing Committee on Coastal Hazards.

The 5-year Project for the Implementation of the Coastal Risk Assessment and Emergency Management Project has started and plans include the following activities:

**Hazard Assessment**
- Diagnostic Studies
- Analyzing Tsunamis Risk
- Sources of Tsunamis, scenarios, and wave propagation
- Analysis of wave run-up and wave height
- Development of integrated coastal risks information platform with access by all stakeholders.

**Detection System:**
- Installation of new satellite sea level stations in the Southwest of Barbados.
- Working with urban DEOs who are planning an evacuation simulation as part of Caribe Wave Exercise2013

**Public Lecture**
On the first anniversary of the 2011 Japan Earthquake and Tsunamis was remembered in Barbados by a Public Lecture entitled The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunamis: 1 Year Later. The lecture was presented by Dr. Lorna Inniss, Deputy Director, Barbados’ Coastal Zone Management Unit and Chair of the ICG under the patronage of the Honourable Adriel Brathwaite, Attorney-General and Minister of Home Affairs with responsibility for Emergency Management.

Date: March 15, 2012

Name: Judy R. Thomas
  Director of Emergency Services\n  Department of Emergency Management