ICG/PTWS Report to General Assembly

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Chair of the ICG/PTWS
Outline

• ICG/PTWS-XXV (Vladivostok, Russian Federation, September 9-11, 2013)
• PTWS governance
• Enhanced Tsunami Threat Advice
• PacWave Tsunami Exercises (2011, 2013)
• Tsunami Warning System for the South China Sea (SCS) Sub-region
• Member State & regional activities and training
• PTWS challenges
ICG/PTWS-XXV

• No ICG/PTWS Meeting since the last IOC General Assembly; ICG/PTWS-XXIV having taken place in Beijing, China, from 24-27 May 2011

• The next ICG/PTWS-XXV will take place in Vladivostok, Russian Federation during September 9-11, 2013

• A major focus of ICG/PTWS-XXV will be the ratification and introduction timing of the PTWC Enhanced Tsunami Products agreed in principle at ICG/PTWS-XXIV
PTWS Governance

• ICG/PTWS is organised with both Regional and Technical Working Groups

• Steering Committee: Officers, Working Group chairs, tsunami warning and information centres representatives

• The Steering Committee met in May 2012

• The Medium Term Strategy and Implementation Plan are being updated for presentation at ICG/PTWS-XXV
Enhanced Tsunami Threat Advice

- A key focus has been the introduction of **PTWC Enhanced Tsunami Products** based on tsunami forecast models and pre-defined coastal zones
- These were tested in **PacWave’11** and **PacWave’13** and are currently being issued by PTWC on an experimental basis
- A final draft of the Enhanced Products will be presented at ICG/PTWS-XXV with a date in 2014 for full implementation
PTWC Ocean Tsunami Amplitude Forecast #3

EQ: 01/05/13 00:00 UTC  22.5S  70.7W  20km  Mw=9.1
PTWC Forecast #3 of Maximum Tsunami Amplitudes within Coastal Polygons

EQ: 01/05/13 00:00 UTC 22.5S 70.7W 20km Mw=9.1
PacWave Tsunami Exercises

- Two Pacific-wide tsunami exercises have been held since the last ICG/PTWS meeting.
  - **PacWave’11** (November 2011) tested Member States standard operating procedures for local/region and provided feedback on provisional Enhanced Products.
  - **PacWave’13** focused on the Enhanced Tsunami Products to provide feedback before ICG/PTWS-XXV.
Tsunami Warning System for the South China Sea (SCS) Sub-region

• ICG/PTWS-XXIV endorsed in principle the establishment of a tsunami system for the South China Sea (SCS) region.

• Progress has been made towards this goal during two Regional Working Group meetings (in December 2011 and October 2012) with an implementation plan being developed.
Regional Activities and Training

• Since ICG/PTWS-XXIV Regional Working Group meetings have been held in all but one region

• IOC, in collaboration with the ITIC and PTWC, hosting countries El Salvador, Chile, New Zealand, and China, and financial support from China, Japan, and the US, is conducting trainings in all PTWS regions on PTWS Enhanced Tsunami Products

• Technical Task Teams have met progressing areas of the PTWS Implementation Plan

• Member States have continued tsunami hazard and risk assessments with some using these to inform community-based evacuation planning initiatives.
PTWS Challenges

• Ensuring the smooth introduction of the Enhanced Products and uptake by Member States

• Securing enough funding to enable ongoing operational training, particularly as the Enhanced Products are introduced

• Maintaining the current high levels of public tsunami awareness over the long term
Thank you for your kind attention

-- from ICG/PTWS