Report of PTWS Working Group 2 on Tsunami Detection, Warning, and Dissemination

Charles McCreery
Chair
NOAA Pacific Tsunami Warning Center
WG2 Inter-sessional Activities

- No meetings of WG2 occurred, but
- Significant work was carried out by its five Task Teams:
  - Task Team on Warning Dissemination
  - Task Team on PacWave11
  - Task Team on Enhancing Products
  - Task Team on Sea Level Monitoring
  - Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in the SW Pacific
Task Team on Warning Dissemination

Chair: Filomena Nelson (Samoa)
Vice-Chair: Edward Young (USA)

Report is available on ICG/PTWS-XXV website

- Reviewed PacWave Exercise results showing most communications systems worked although gaps still exist
- EMWIN receivers upgraded in Pacific Island Countries for the switch to GOES-15 in 2011
- American Samoa, Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa, and Fiji installed siren systems
- Samoa, Fiji and Tonga also use SMS to alert
Task Team on Warning Dissemination

Recommendations

- Task Team should be renewed, especially in consideration of upcoming new products
- Task Team should work with the Regional WGs to:
  - Collate information on emergency communications for data and warnings
  - Review Member State dissemination systems
  - Identify regional mechanisms to assist Member States in addressing communication gaps
  - Consider legal framework for telecommunication service providers to serve emergency mgmt.
Task Team on PacWave11 (and 13)

Co-Chair: Laura Kong (ITIC)
Co-Chair: Jo Guard (New Zealand)

Report is available on ICG/PTWS-XXV website

- Exercise PacWave11 was conducted on 9-10 November 2011 with 35 Member States
- Exercise PacWave13 was conducted from 1-14 May 2013 with 34 Member States
- These exercises will be discussed in detail under Agenda Item 4.3
Task Team on Enhancing Products

Chair: Charles McCreery (USA)

Report is available on ICG/PTWS-XXV website

- Enhanced products continued to be developed by PTWC based on feedback from the exercises, trainings and TOWS Task Team
- Enhanced products issued in parallel with current products beginning April 15, 2013.
- Detailed report on going forward is under Agenda Item 4.4
- Recommend continue this Task Team for the next inter-sessional period.
Task Team on Sea Level Monitoring

Chair: Chris Ryan (Australia)

Chris retired shortly after ICG/PTWS-XXIV

No report is available, but

- Sea level measuring systems for tsunamis improved over the inter-sessional period
- Gaps remain
- Sustainability remains a challenge
- Recommend functionality of this Task Team be assumed by Working Group 2
Task Team on Seismic Data Sharing in SW Pacific

Chair: Ken Gledhill (New Zealand)
Report is available on ICG/PTWS-XXV website

- Established at ICG/PTWS-XXIII
- ORSnet established in inter-sessional period
- Seismic data now exchanged between Vanuatu and New Caledonia and to PTWC
- ORSnet planning to include Samoa, Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea.
- Recommend this Task Team continue with Co-Chairs from the SW Pacific Member States
Thank You