MARCH 22nd, 2017 MEETING REPORT

Task Team on the Tsunami Ready Community Performance Based Tsunami Recognition Programme for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions

Task Team

Membership:

1. Kerry Hinds, Barbados (CHAIR)
2. Juan Salado, ONAMET, Republica Dominicana
3. Gerard Metayer, SEMANAH
4. Joseph Edgard Celestin, DPC, Comité d'Education et Sensibilisation du Public, Haiti
5. Mr. Carl Herbert, Director, NEMO, St.Kitts
6. Mr. Brian Dyer, Director, NEMO, Nevis
7. Carolina Hincapie, CTWP, Puerto Rico, USA, Invited Expert
8. Wilfredo Ramos, Agencia Estatal de Manejo de Emergencias, Puerto Rico (USA)
9. Mr Steve Symphor, Conseil Générale de la Martinique (France)
10. Christa von Hillebrandt-Andrade, ex officio, CARIBE EWS Chair
11. Alison Brome, ex-officio. CTIC Director (a.i)
12. Bernardo Aliaga, ex officio, CARIBE EWS Technical Secretary

Meetings of the Task Team were required prior to the upcoming ICG CARIBE EWS General Assembly during the period May 10-12, 2017. The ICG CARIBE EWS at its last session in Cartagena Columbia:

- Further decided that there should be continued piloting of the approved guidelines for the Tsunami Ready Community Performance Based
Tsunami Recognition Programme for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions

- Recommended that the Task Team on the Tsunami Ready Community Performance Based Tsunami Recognition Programme for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions consider the proposed logo developed by Colombia in support of the implementation of the Programme.

Thus the Chair of the Task Team on the Tsunami Ready Community Performance Based Tsunami Recognition Programme for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions convened a virtual meeting on Wednesday 22nd March, 2017 at 10:00am AST to discuss these abovementioned issues and make solid recommendations in an effort to advance the work of the ICG CARIBE-EWS.

The meeting followed the agenda below:

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Update on Task Team Work since Last ICG
3. Discussion on piloting of the approved guidelines for the Tsunami Ready Community Performance Based Tsunami Recognition Programme for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions
4. Consideration of the proposed logo developed by Colombia in support of the implementation of the Programme
5. Any Other Business

As such the meeting discussions and outcomes were as follows:

i. During the intersessional period, work continued in advancing the piloting of the Tsunami Ready Guidelines During the period under
review, St. Kitts and Nevis with the support of the Task Team gained recognition under the programme.

ii. Assistance is also being rendered to Grenada, Honduras and Haiti as they seek recognition. Whereas St. Kitts and Nevis would have sought and received recognition at the country level, Grenada will be seeking recognition of one of its’ parishes, Honduras by one of its’ communities and Haiti will be seeking recognition of three communities in North Haiti.

iii. The meeting noted that these efforts namely in St. Kitts and Nevis, Honduras and Grenada have been funded by USAID while for Haiti funding has been received from UNESCO.

iv. St. Vincent and the Grenadines is endeavouring to secure funding through CDEMA to facilitate Tsunami Ready recognition in one of its’ communities.

v. Barbados has indicated that they will consider seeking recognition of one of its’ communities during the upcoming period.

vi. The Task Team will investigate if any of the Dutch territories are interested in pursuing Tsunami Ready programme.

vii. During the upcoming period British Virgin Islands and Anguilla will be up for renewals of their recognition.

viii. The meeting reported that the Pacific Tsunami Warning System in reviewing the Tsunami Ready Guidelines suggested that renewal of recognition under the programme should be sought every four years as opposed to every three years. It was suggested that this be further discussed at the upcoming session of the ICG Caribe EWS in May.

ix. There was a request for St. Kitts and Nevis to be given consideration for Review of its Tsunami Ready Status at the 4th Year as per request of the
Pacific States. Recognizing that under the UNESCO Certification the renewal is due after 3 years.

x. The meeting noted that the other ICGs have indicated interest in the Tsunami Ready programme developed by the Caribbean and Adjacent Region and the possibility of utilising these as voluntary guidelines in their respective ICGs.

xi. There was also discussion on reviewing our current guidelines with a view of giving further guidance to communities, territories and countries on the guidelines. This discussion was prompted by the fact that there was some uncertainty at the level of the community “What constitutes a community in the context of the guidelines” thus clarification should be sought at the Task Team or ICG level.

xii. The meeting informed that TOWS has recommended to ICG Caribe EWS that it consider piloting the CARIBE EWS Tsunami Ready guidelines and report back to the TOWS-XI with a view to develop harmonized consistent global guidelines.

xiii. The meeting also discussed the proposed logo developed by Colombia in support of the implementation of the Programme. It was noted that at the global level there will be consideration by UNESCO to have a universal logo for the programme. It was recommended that our ICG give consideration to submitting an entry to be considered at the global level or extend an invitation to establishing a global committee to decide on the “global” logo.

xiv. It was noted that at the next scheduled TOWS Meeting in February 2018, there would be discussion on the global logo and as such the Task Team should consider further developing the logo and work with the other ICGs so that there is some consensus on the global logo going forward.
xv. The meeting discussed the possible presentation of several posters on different aspects of ICG Caribe EWS’s work at the Multi-Hazard Early Warning Conference to take place in Cancun, Mexico from May 22 to 23, 2017. It was agreed that Task Team on the Tsunami Ready Community Performance Based Tsunami Recognition Programme for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions should submit an entry to showcase its’ work and accomplishments with respect to the UNESCO CARIBE EWS Tsunami Ready Recognition Pilot Program. The meeting participants agreed to review urgently the draft abstract noting that final submission was due on March 23rd, 2017.

xvi. It was agreed that the Report of the Task Team meeting be submitted to UNESCO and the ICG Chair by April 10, 2017.

xvii. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am AST.