REPORT

REGISTRATION
The participants completed the registration list, a copy of which is provided in Annex 1.

1. INTRODUCTION
The Chair of ICG/IOTWS Working Group 6, Ms Irina Rafliana, addressed welcoming remarks to the members of Working Group 6, and outlined the scope and objectives of the intersessional meeting. Ms Rafliana noted the achievements already undertaken by Indian Ocean countries after the Indian Ocean tsunami 2004, and the many challenges that still remained. She commented that the focus should be on extending and accelerating the use of good practices among Member States, prioritizing capacity building on warning dissemination and emergency response.

Mr Tony Elliott, Head of the ICG/IOTWS Secretariat, welcomed the participants to the meeting and stressed the importance of strong collaboration on focused issues such as developing SOPs and other activities on the group’s workplan.

The Chair of ICG/IOTWS, Prof. Dr. Jan Sopaheluwakan welcomed the participants to the intersessional meeting. He addressed the historical development of the IOTWS and the important role and need for contribution of WG6 in this matter, highlighting that intergovernmental cooperation is essential to achieve this. It is crucial to disseminate short, concise and accurate warning messages to ensure they are understood. Therefore, guidelines are important.

Ms Rafliana requested brief introductions from the participants.

2. UPDATES ON WORKING GROUP 6 WORKS
Ms Rafliana introduced the meeting agenda for the day (see Annex 2). As the first agenda item, she presented the last presentation of Working Group 6 during the 6th Session of the ICG/IOTWS meeting in April 2009, which reviewed results of previous intersessional meeting in Bali, 2008. An informal meeting of WG6 members was also conducted back-to-back with the ICG/IOTWS meeting in Hyderabad. Working Group 6, which concentrates on preparedness, emergency response and mitigation, was requested to complete IOTWS Implementation Plan updates, currently submitted by Thailand, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Indonesia. Other Member States were requested to submit their updates as soon as possible.
Issues to consider included: sharing lessons learnt and best practices; and interactions with other Working Groups (e.g. WG3 for Risks Assessment and WG5 for System interoperability).

**Yemen** expressed concerns on how to benefit from each others’ experiences in developing community preparedness. Yemen also suggested a pilot study case, which in turn could allow Member States to share information and access to solutions as well.

**Sri Lanka** expressed interest in learning more about tools for measuring community preparedness. This was further explained by Indonesia, using their experiences throughout the country in developing such tools, using five critical parameters: Knowledge and Attitude, Policy Statements, Emergency Planning, Early Warning, and Resources Mobilization Capacities. The index categorizes the level of preparedness. The profile or index resulting from the assessment can then contribute to further development planning and development of community preparedness strategy.

**Malaysia** described the progress made within the tsunami warning system, and dissemination, involving television and multimode communication.

**Pakistan** expressed concerns on how to integrate the efforts in developing tsunami warning systems into the multi-hazard approaches in disaster risks reduction. UNESCO JTIC shared the need to focus on the system, although addressing a multi-hazard approach is relevant due to the different types and levels of hazards that each country encounters. The specific or focused approaches in the TWS development may then contribute to a larger scope of multi hazard disaster risk reduction.

### 3. FLASH TALKS – INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES SHARING BY MEMBER STATES

The meeting provided an opportunity to share lessons learned among Member States. Ms Rafliana invited interested Member States to update the group with progress and issues raised within their respective countries.

**Pakistan**

Mr Amir Mohyouddin presented Pakistan’s tsunami drill initiatives undertaken recently, based on the historical 1945 tsunami, which resulted in a death toll of over 4000. The tsunami drill was prepared for several days of stakeholder meetings, capacity building activities, training-cum-planning sessions with community volunteers and orientation to brief about tsunami and evacuation drill. The drill involved witnesses from the 1945 tsunami. Different infrastructure was installed in Gwadar and Pasni, including displays of signs and announcements. Meeting with stakeholders in the community involved discussion on stakeholders roles and responsibilities. The drill concluded some lesson learnts, among others, the need to conduct drills on a regular basis. Involvement of volunteer and active media engagement was also highlighted. It is crucial to educate media in warning dissemination, as well as take better social responsibility to community at large.

**Yemen**

Mr Majed Al Refai of Yemen called for support for Yemen on awareness raising for different tsunami early warning aspects, including mitigation, preparedness and response. Yemen stated their lack of experience, equipment, coordination and financial support for better EWS. Yemen requested practical and clearly targeted activities.
Malaysia

Mr Rodzi bin MD Saad described the implementation of Disaster Management guidelines since 1997. Efforts in the development of tsunami warning system were supported by the government of Malaysia, including early warning infrastructure and a operation centre for warning dissemination, under Prime Minister’s Guideline. Some 20 series of awareness campaigns had also been developed and conducted. Malaysia had also identified and defined the warning dissemination chain, and established community engagement in drills with roles taken up by community leaders. SOP were also established, including a short messaging system.

Tanzania

Ms Rosemary Michihiyo described the 2004 tsunami experience in Tanzania, when messages and warnings were received from JMA and USGS, with Tanzania Meteorology Agency as focal point. Tanzania stressed the importance of defining means of communication for warning dissemination. High level authorities including Tanzania’s Prime Minister were involved in decision making for response to the warning. Tanzania had also established 24/7 staff assignments for response.

Sri Lanka

Ms Lalani Imbulana presented Sri Lanka’s report on a tsunami simulation exercise conducted in Sri Lanka on the 20th July 2009. Dissemination of warning was brought down from national to district and divisional levels. Selected communities were given awareness raising activities to avoid panic situation, also to government officials such as police officers. Lessons learnt were concluded after the exercise. This exercise strengthened and expanded the Sri Lanka tsunami warning system, with considerations on the importance of warning dissemination, utilization of faster communication modes such as phone and fax, better awareness of SOP’s, and also better involvement of communities at district level in the exercises. Sri Lanka would like to consider conducting tsunami simulation at night, and test their warning dissemination system down to district level, including testing the police communication system.

Kenya

Mr Ephantus Ngotho presented Kenya’s update. He reported that the warning messages provided by Kenya Meteorology Department (KMD) were disseminated to National Disaster Management Centres, which take into account the shortest or most rapid dissemination method. The KMD worked with related stakeholders at district level, yet the public was still unaware about tsunamis. There were plans to establish radio stations around the coasts and also development of material for education at schools. Kenya noted that international support was still concentrated on Asian countries.

Indonesia

Ms Irina Rafliana provided Indonesia’s update. She outlined the steps in strengthening community preparedness in the last mile of the tsunami warning system. Developing Community Preparedness Assessment Framework, these tools were set to measure levels of preparedness at school, community and local government. Prioritized preparedness measures were then taken based on the assessment profiles. Tsunami drills conducted to test SOP’s at different levels, included local government, interface institutions and local communities, and based on local or existing capacities.
Bangladesh

Mr MD Mozidul from Bangladesh presented Bangladesh’s experience in receiving warning issuance from PTWC during a 2007 earthquake. PTWC issued warning for potential tsunami at 2100hrs UTC. Bangladesh called for support to meet the need in strengthening NTWC’s for local monitoring and also suggested there should be a signed agreement with neighboring countries on information sharing.

Australia

Australia was unable to attend the meeting, but sent its written report and updates on community preparedness initiatives. Australia also sent samples of awareness materials, to be distributed to Member States. The report was circulated and the awareness materials package was also distributed.

4. WORKING GROUP 6 WORKPLAN: DOCUMENT COMPILATION ON “PREPARING THE LAST MILE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM”.

Ms Rafliana presented draft proposals generated from recommendations by the previous meeting for follow up. Among others, it was proposed to develop a document compilation on community preparedness in the last mile of the tsunami warning system. This proposal would allow collaboration among members of Working Group 6 in information and experience sharing. Outlines and sub-headings were presented as bullet points for further discussion among Member States. These included: the importance of learning from past disaster experiences; collecting good practices around the Indian Ocean countries; discussion on the role of media in warning dissemination; and useful tools in strengthening community preparedness in countries. Important lessons from the first Indian Ocean Wave Exercise were noted as one of the highlights of this documentation. The participants had a short discussion on improving the concept note, with suggestions to also have links and share lessons from Asia Pasific preparedness initiatives and tsunami warning system. Communication mode and providers were also considered as important to be included in the document. The meeting agreed on steps to accomplish the documentation work.

A team was formed to undertake this work, and Mr Amir Mohyuddin (Pakistan) agreed to lead this initiative, to work on the draft concept note and further communicate with Member States to develop the document.

5. PRESENTATIONS ON RELATED WORKS TO COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Mr Sanny Jegillos, UNDP Regional Center Bangkok, presented UNDP initiatives to support the ICG/IOTWS, particularly Working Group 3 on Risk Assessment. This work had direct linkage with community preparedness initiatives in the Indian Ocean, within the perspective of human losses and development at risk. The ICG/IOTWS Guidelines on Tsunami Risks Assessment - Knowing Your Risk and What to Do About It, endorsed during the ICG/IOTWS-VI meeting in Hyderabad 2009, was a demand-driven initiative led by Prof. Sam Hettiarachchi and Working Group 3. A regional seminar and training workshop on these guidelines would be held by the ICG/IOTWS, with support from UNDP RCB, in Bangkok, November 2009. The workshop design was already concluded in Bangkok, on 3-5 August 2009. The guidelines of the Tsunami Risk Assessment is available on request from Member States.
A joint project on monitoring the implementation of the interface between the system and its end users was conducted by the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Bangkok, with ADPC (Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre). Dr Frank Thomalla (SEI) presented updates of SEI programs, which reached the early warning system and community preparedness. SEI had facilitated an International and Regional Online Dialogue on the Warning System, to address key questions and conduct a multi-stakeholders participatory assessment.

Mr Atiq Ahmad (ADPC) described the development of the Coastal Community Resilience Tool (CCR), with emphasis on: governance; society and economy; coastal resources management; land use and structural design; risk knowledge; warning and evacuation; and emergency response and disaster recovery. The utilization of this tool was pilot-tested, with working group formation and training. Interest was shown from Member States to develop further proposals for CCR implementation.

6. CLOSING

At the closing session, the meeting Chair, Ms Irina Rafliana, reminded the group that the concurrent agenda was a workshop on Standard Operational Procedures for Tsunami Warning Dissemination and Emergency Response, parallel with Working Group 5, on the following two days, 12 – 13 August 2009. Issues and comments on the specific topics were addressed for the following day, where the participants would be the same as this meeting. Many issues addressed during the intersessional meeting would be synchronized with the following workshop. The work of Working Group 6 itself should be based on focused objectives and measurable deliverables, considering the resource constraints. Focus should be put on the unmet gaps in risk management together with Working Group 3, and capacity building in warning dissemination and emergency response together with Working Group 5, calling on support from related organizations at national, regional and international levels. The priority should be to support technical cross-assistance by and for Member States, for example in developing national Standard Operational Procedures, with good practice sharing from other regions, e.g: the Pacific Tsunami Warning System.
ANNEX 1 – LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBER STATES
Ms Irina Rafliana – Indonesia, Chair WG 6
Mr Abdul Muhsin Ramiz – Maldives
Mr Mohammed Shahid – Maldives
Mr Amir Mohyuddin – Pakistan
Ms Lalani Imbulana – Sri Lanka
Mr Obanayak Ravi – India
Ms Rosemary Phillemon Michihiyo – Tanzania
Mr Hamza Athumani Kabelwa – Tanzania
Mr Ephantus Ngotho – Kenya
Mr Anacleto Duvane – Mozambique
Mr MD. Mostafa Kamal – Bangladesh
Mr MD Mozidul Islam – Bangladesh
Mr Rodzi Bin MD Saad – Malaysia
Mr Marc Feigneux – France (La Reunion)
Mr Majeed Abd Al Majed Alrefai – Yemen

OBSERVERS
Dr Frank Thomalla – Macquire University Australia – Stockholm Environment Institute
Mr Atiq Ahmad – ADPC
Ms Vidiarina – Germany GTZ
Mr Harald Spahn – Germany GTZ

SECRETARIAT
Mr Ardito Kodijat – UNESCO JTIC, Indonesia
Mr Tony Elliott – UNESCO IOC ICG/IOTWS Secretariat
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Agenda</th>
<th>Persons in Charge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:15</td>
<td>Opening</td>
<td>Opening of the Inter-Session meeting</td>
<td>Chair WG 6 ICG IOC Secretariat Chair ICG IOTWS</td>
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<td>09:30</td>
<td>COFFEE / TEA BREAK</td>
<td>Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Presentation on WG6 updates (results of WG intersession meeting in Bali &amp; VI ICG Meeting Hyderabad) &amp; General comments by member states</td>
<td>Chair WG6</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>Flash Talks</td>
<td>Flash Talks: Member states / countries updates &amp; preparation for the IOWave09</td>
<td>Participating member states</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30</td>
<td>Flash Talks</td>
<td>Flash Talks: Member states / countries updates &amp; preparation for the IOWave09 (cont’d)</td>
<td>Participating member states</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Presentation on draft proposals: Adaptive learning &amp; Lessons learnt documentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Discussions</td>
<td>Discussions (cont’d), changes needed for the draft proposal</td>
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<td>15:30</td>
<td>COFFEE / TEA BREAK</td>
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<td>15:15</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Presentation by International Organizations: UNDP</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
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<td>15:45</td>
<td>Agreed action items</td>
<td>Agreed action items for implementing proposed concept note: Document compilation “Preparing the Last Mile of the Tsunami Warning System”</td>
<td>Chair WG6 &amp; UNESCO - JTIC</td>
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<td>16.45</td>
<td>Presentation</td>
<td>Presentation by International Organizations: Stockholm Environment Institute and ADPC</td>
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<td>17.30</td>
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