IOC Circular Letter N°2411
(Available in English only)

To: ICG/PTWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) for Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam
ICG/PTWS Chair and Vice-Chairs

Cc: Official National Coordinating Body for liaison with the IOC Member States (for information)
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States: Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam
Permanent Observers ICG/PTWS
UNESCO Offices in China, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam

Subject: First meeting of the ICG/PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the South China Sea Region (ICG/PTWS-WG SCS/I)
12-14 December, Sanya, Hainan Province, China

The Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS), at its 24th Session from 24 to 27 May 2011 in Beijing, China, decided to continue the Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the South China Sea, confirming as Chair Dr. Mohd Rosaidi bin Che Abas (Malaysia) and electing as Vice-Chair Dr Fujiang Yu (China). The ICG/PTWS further approved the following Terms of Reference for this Working Group:

1. To evaluate capabilities of countries in the South China Sea Region for providing end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation services;

2. To ascertain requirements from countries in the South China Sea for the tsunami warning and mitigation services;

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3. To promote and facilitate tsunami hazard and risk studies in the region;
4. To facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of seismic and sea level stations and networks and communication systems in the region;
5. To facilitate improvement of the education programmes on tsunami mitigation in the region;
6. To facilitate capacity building and the sharing of tsunami information in the region, including the free and open exchange of data.
7. The Group will be composed of members nominated by Member States Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and invited experts.

Following the offer of the Government of China at the Twenty-sixth Session of the IOC Assembly, 22 June–5 July 2011, UNESCO HQ, Paris, it is with great pleasure that I would like to announce the First meeting if the ICG/PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the South China Sea Region (ICG/PTWS-WG SCS/I), 12-14 December, Sanya, Hainan Province, China. The venue of the meeting will be the Yuhai International Resort, close to the Sanya Phoenix International Airport.

Through this Circular Letter Tsunami National Contacts (TNCs) from Brunei, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam are invited to nominate their delegation to this meeting. Nominations should be sent to Bernardo Aliaga, ICG/PTWS Technical Secretary before 15th November 2011, to the email address b.aliaga@unesco.org and copied to Tony Elliott, Head ICG/ITWS Secretariat, email address: mailto:t.elliott@unesco.org .

Limited funding is available to support delegates nominated by TNCs, with priority assigned to participants from least developed and low income IOC Member States based on the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee List of Official Development Assistance Recipients. Support will consist of round trip air travel via the shortest and most economical route and daily subsistence allowance (DSA) during the workshop. If you wish to apply for funding support, please send your request to the same emails above.

Please find enclosed a Draft Provisional Agenda prepared by the Secretariat in coordination with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this Working Group.

All relevant information regarding this meeting including documentation and presentations as well as the list of participants will be made available on the following website:


Looking forward to hearing from you in due course, I remain yours faithfully,

Wendy Watson-Wright
Executive Secretary, IOC
Assistant Director-General, UNESCO
INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
(of UNESCO)

First meeting of the ICG/PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the South China Sea Region (ICG/PTWS-WG SCS/I)  
12-14 December, Sanya, Hainan Province, China

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. OPENING

2. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION
   2.1 ADOPTION OF AGENDA
   2.2 DESIGNATION OF THE RAPPORTEUR
   2.3. CONDUCT OF THE SESSION, TIMETABLE AND DOCUMENTATION

3. PACWAVE 11 RESULTS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA REGION
   3.1 OVERVIEW OF PACWAVE 11 RESULTS
   3.2 PACWAVE 11 RESULTS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND LESSONS LEARNT

4 RISK ASSESSMENT AND REDUCTION: hazard and risk identification and risk reduction
   4.1 TSUNAMI HAZARD IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA
   4.2 HAZARD MITIGATION IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

5 DETECTION, WARNING AND DISSEMINATION: rapid detection and warning dissemination down to the last mile
   5.1 EARTHQUAKE MONITORING SYSTEM
   5.2 SEA LEVEL MONITORING SYSTEM
   5.3 INFORMATION SHARING PLATFORM
   5.4 TSUNAMI WARNING CENTER

6 AWARENESS AND RESPONSE: public education, emergency planning and response
   6.1 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA
   6.2 PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION TOOLS FOR TSUNAMI IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

7 NEXT MEETING

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9 CLOSE OF THE MEETING