IOC Circular Letter No 2740 (Available in English only)

To: ICG/CARIBE-EWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC)
National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWCs)
Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP)
ICG/CARIBE-EWS Officers

cc.: Official National Coordinating Bodies for Liaison with IOC
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO and National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States
Directors of UNESCO and IOC Regional Offices in the Caribbean region
Permanent Observers to ICG/CARIBE-EWS
IOC Officers

Subject: Appointment of a Programme Officer for Coastal Hazards and the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC) in Barbados

By this letter I would like to announce the appointment of Ms Alison Brome as UNESCO Programme Officer for Coastal Hazards and the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC). Ms Brome took up her post on 20 September 2018. She had been working with the regional tsunami mitigation programme since 2008 in various capacities: first as Technical Coordinator, Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning Systems Project (CDEMA, 2008–2010), and later as consultant and interim Director for CTIC during its establishment and subsequent time periods where CTIC was funded by extra-budgetary resources.

Ms Brome has helped pioneer tsunami public awareness including tsunami education materials and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for many UNESCO/IOC Member States within the Caribbean. She has also been actively engaged in the regional tsunami exercises and facilitated trainings for national stakeholders in collaboration with regional and international partners. Since the adoption of the UNESCO-IOC CARIBE-EWS Tsunami Ready Performance-based Community Pilot Program in 2015, Alison has played a critical role in its implementation in several Member States.

Ms Brome holds a Master of Science in Urban Planning from Oxford Brookes University, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography from Mona, the University of the West Indies, and certifications in project management and human resources management. Ms Brome was trained as Physical...
Planner in 1999 and has co-authored the Management Plan for the successful UNESCO-nomination of Historic Bridgetown and its Garrison as a World Heritage Site. She was Deputy Project Manager and helped develop the Barbados National Physical Development Plan (2016–2017).

The Caribbean and its adjacent areas have been the source region for 11% of the world’s fatal tsunamis over history. Almost 100 tsunamis have been observed that have impacted 23 countries of this region. Through the establishment of a regional Tsunami Early Warning System in 2005, the Caribbean has significantly improved its capabilities to deal with the tsunami threat.

In this context the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE-EWS) at its 4th session (2009) agreed to establish the Caribbean Tsunami Information Centre (CTIC) to serve all ICG/CARIBE-EWS Members States and accepted the offer of the Government of Barbados to host the Centre.

The CTIC monitors the performance and effectiveness of the regional and national tsunami warning activities and seeks the cooperation of all stakeholders in improving the system. In addition it serves as an information resource for: (i) technical information required for an effective tsunami warning system; (ii) educational, preparedness, and other awareness materials required for an effective tsunami warning and mitigation system; and (iii) tsunami events including historical information on events.

IOC-UNESCO places great importance to the establishment and development of CTIC, and we extend our appreciation to the Government of Barbados for their continued hosting of CTIC. It is my hope that with the appointment of Ms Brome, CTIC will develop into a resource centre for information and mitigation of Tsunamis and other coastal hazards in the Caribbean.

Ms Brome can be contacted at a.brome@unesco.org.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary