IOC Circular Letter No. 2802
(available in English only)

IOC/VR/TA/BA/eb

20 May 2020

To: Registered Tsunami National Contacts (TNC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) of the following countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (Peoples Republic of), Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam

Cc: Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with IOC Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States National Commissions for UNESCO in IOC Member States Directors of UNESCO and IOC Regional Offices in the Asia/Pacific Region Regional Organizations cooperating with UNESCO/IOC Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center Northwest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Center (NWPTAC) Director, International Tsunami Information Center WMO Focal Point for GTS/Tsunami IOC Tsunami Unit

Subject: Notification and Instructions regarding the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC) Communications Test for the Registered SCSTA Focal Points, 8 June 2020 at 0600 UTC

By this letter, I wish to notify that the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center will conduct a communications test on 8 June 2020 at 0600 UTC to verify that communications links to the recipient organizations of its tsunami advisories in the above-mentioned countries and territories in the South China Sea region are functioning properly.

Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFPs) in the recipient organizations of SCSTAC advisories should expect to receive the test message within a few minutes of issuance through their designated communications methods. These may include the following: (i) Global Telecommunications System (GTS) using World Meteorological Organization product header WESS31 BABJ, the same product header used by SCSTAC to issue an advisory; (ii) an e-mail from tsu@nmefc.cn; (iii) a Telefax from SCSTAC.

TWFPs should check to ensure that the test message is received via all their designated communications methods. TWFPs are requested to complete and return the acknowledgement form.
by Telefax to +86 10 6217 3638, and/or e-mail to tsu@nmefc.cn. Prompt response (preferably by 0700 UTC on 8 June 2020) is highly desirable. Results of this communications test will be processed by SCSTAC.

Please note that the communications test will be postponed in case actual tsunami advisories are currently in effect for the South China Sea region, or if a serious event (even if non-tsunamigenic one) occurs in and/or around the Pacific Ocean, which requires the full involvement of the China National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center operators. In such event, the test will be carried out at 0600 UTC on 10 June 2020.

We count on your full participation in the test. Ensuring the operational functionality of all communications methods is critical to the effectiveness of the Pacific Tsunami Warning System for the South China Sea Region.

With the assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary

Enclosures (2):
Sample message of a TEST for South China Sea Tsunami Advisory (SCSTA) (Appendix 1)
Acknowledgement form for receipt of the SCSTA test message (Appendix 2)
Sample message of a TEST for SCSTA

TEST for South China Sea Tsunami Advisory (SCSTA)

Date: 8 JUN 2020
Form: South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC)
To: Tsunami Focal Point for SCSTAC, PTWC, JMA (NWPTAC)

WESS31 BABJ 080600

SCSTAC COMMUNICATIONS TEST
ISSUED BY SOUTH CHINA SEA TSUNAMI ADVISORY CENTER (SCSTAC)
ISSUED AT 0600Z 08 JUN 2020
THIS IS A TEST BULLETIN
THIS IS A TEST TO VERIFY COMMUNICATION LINKS AND DETERMINE
TRANSMISSION TIMES INVOLVED IN THE DISSEMINATION OF OPERATIONAL
TSUNAMI ADVICE PRODUCTS FROM THE SOUTH CHINA SEA TSUNAMI ADVISORY
CENTER TO DESIGNATED 24-HOUR TSUNAMI WARNING FOCAL POINTS OF THE SOUTH
CHINA SEA TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM.
RECIPIENTS ARE REQUESTED TO PLEASE RESPOND BACK TO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA
TSUNAMI ADVISORY CENTER.
PLEASE RESPOND VIA ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MEANS
*TEL:+86-10-62104561
*EMAIL:TSU@NMEFC.CN
*FAX:+86-10-62173638
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS COMMUNICATION TEST
NNNN
Acknowledgement form for receipt of the SCSTA test message

Date: ________________

To: South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC)  
    National Marine Environment Forecasting Center (NMEFC)

Facsimile: +86 10 6217 3638        E-mail: tsu@nmefc.cn

Acknowledgement form for receipt of the SCSTA test message

1. Name of country: ____________________________________________

2. Recipient organization: _______________________________________

3. Responsible office: ___________________________________________

4. Name of officer in charge: _____________________________________

5. Reception status of the SCSTA test message

   (1) GTS
      [ ] Received (Time of receipt (UTC): h   m)
      [ ] Failed to receive
      [ ] Not registered

   (2) E-mail
      Registered address 1: _________________________________________
      [ ] Received (Time of receipt (UTC):   h   m)
      [ ] Failed to receive
      [ ] Not registered

      Registered address 2: _________________________________________
      [ ] Received (Time of receipt (UTC):   h   m)
      [ ] Failed to receive
      [ ] Not registered

      Registered address 3: _________________________________________
      [ ] Received (Time of receipt (UTC):   h   m)
      [ ] Failed to receive
      [ ] Not registered

   (3) Facsimile
      Registered number 1: _________________________________________
      [ ] Received (Time of receipt (UTC):   h   m)
      [ ] Failed to receive
      [ ] Not registered

      Registered number 2: _________________________________________
      [ ] Received (Time of receipt (UTC):   h   m)
      [ ] Failed to receive
      [ ] Not registered