

12th Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC)

Dar-es-Salaam (22 - 23 September 2015)

MSI Self Assessment – NAVAREA VII

Submitted by: South Africa to the WWNWS7 Meeting
IHB, Monaco (24 – 28 August 2015)

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides MSI information related to NAVAREA VII

Action to be taken: Report to be noted by the WWNWS 7 Meeting.

Related documents: None.

1. **Background.** The South African Hydrographic Office, Coordinator of NAVAREA VII, in conjunction with the South African Meteorological Service, promulgates and disseminates shipping safety messages and weather information. Cape Town Radio is the GMDSS service provider and as such, transmits all MSI on behalf of the Coordinator.

SafetyNET

MSI transmission is to the Indian Ocean Region and to the Atlantic Ocean Region East. Meteorological Forecasts: 0940 and 1940 UTC; NAVAREA Warnings: **0940 and 1940 UTC**. Land Earth Station 12 Burum; Service Provider: Stratos Mobile Networks.

NAVTEX

NAVTEX coverage out to 200 nm from the Namibian and South African Coasts is passed from the Coast Radio Stations at Cape Town (**C**), Port Elizabeth (**I**) and Durban (**O**). The Coast Radio Station at Walvis Bay, Namibia (**B**) NAVTEX service is not operational. Cape Town Radio includes Namibian Maritime Safety Information with its scheduled NAVTEX and SafetyNET MSI broadcasts. Plans are currently formulated to bring a dedicated Namibian NAVTEX service back into operation.

Radio Telephony

For the benefit of non-GMDSS adapted vessels, the Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Durban Radio Weather Bulletins and Navigational Warnings in force are combined and presented as one single-voice broadcast from Cape Town Radio at 1015 and 1815 UTC daily. The coastal weather report as at 1200 UTC is broadcast at 1333 UTC. Transmission is on HF on 4375, 8740 and on 13146 kHz and on 27 VHF traffic channels sited around the South African coast from Alexander Bay in the West to Kosi Bay in the East.

Namibian coastal weather and navigational warnings are broadcast on voice twice daily from Walvis Bay Radio on HF on 4357 and on 8719 kHz and on 3 VHF traffic channels from transmitters located along the Namibian coast.

Geographical Limits of NAVAREA VII:

Southern Africa – South Atlantic Ocean (AOR-E):

6° 00'S, 020° 00'W (Angola international border with The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), (West Coast) to the coast of Antarctica

and

Southern Africa – Indian Ocean (IOR):

10° 30'S, 055° 00'E (Mozambique international border with Tanzania, (East Coast) to 30° 00'S, 055° 00'E to 30° 00'S, 080° 00'E to the coast of Antarctica.

Operational Point of Contact for the National Coordinator within NAVAREA VII is:

Country	Telephone	Facsimile	Email
South Africa	+27 21 787 2445 +27 21 787 2408	+27 21 787 2233	hydrosan@iafrica.com

Port Control Vessel Traffic Services in South African hub ports provide information necessary for safe navigation within VTS routes and port approaches.

SafetyNET coverage is available through the NAVAREA VII Coordinator for Angola, Namibia, Mozambique and Madagascar.

The **Namibian Port Authority (NAMPORT)** is in regular contact with the NAVAREA VII Coordinator and as such, both SafetyNET and NAVTEX MSI concerning the Namibian coast are provided for promulgation by the South African Navy Hydrographic Office.

The **Mozambique Institute of Hydrography and Navigation (INAHINA)** promulgates monthly Notices to Mariners. Relevant MSI is passed to the NAVAREA VII Coordinator for transmission on SafetyNET.

There is a stable reception of MSI from **Angola**. Vessels transiting NAVAREA VII report MSI via coast radio stations or directly to SANHO. Resulting broadcasts are made via NAVTEX and SafetyNET.

Copies of NAVAREA Messages are received from the Coordinators of NAVAREAS II, VI, VIII and XI. Where necessary, MSI relevant to an adjacent area is retransmitted for the benefit of transiting traffic.

There remains a lack of communication from **Iles Comores** and **Madagascar** in terms of the dissemination of MSI. This poses a potential risk to mariners in the relevant areas.

There is a lack of NAVTEX transmitting stations north of the South African international borders and there is still no apparent acquisition of MSI transmitting apparatus or MSI training or implementation of MSI dissemination by States in the Great Rift Valley in the Southern African region.

2. **Comments.**

Equipment Type	Software Version	Date of Up-date
SafetyNET MSI via E-mail (SATCOM C)	N/A	N/A
Navtex 518 kHz NBDP	N/A	N/A
MSI via VHF and HF voice broadcast	N/A	N/A

The GMDSS Master Plan for NAVAREA VII is up to date and the last update was provided on 18 June 2014.

SafetyNET Messages Promulgated

2012 (324)				2013 (444)				2014 (403)			
E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text
81	243	Nil	Nil	110	334	Nil	Nil	134	269	Nil	Nil

NAVTEX coverage out to 200nm from the Namibian and South African Coasts is passed from the Coast Radio Stations at Cape Town (C), Port Elizabeth (I) and Durban (O). The Coast Radio Station at Walvis Bay, Namibia (B) NAVTEX, is currently not operational. These Coastal Navigation Warning messages are also transmitted by voice twice a day for the benefit of fishing vessels and leisure craft. See diagram attached at end of document.

Coastal Navigational Warning Messages Promulgated

2012 (548)				2013 (725)				2014 (708)			
E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text
137	411	Nil	Nil	181	544	Nil	Nil	236	472	Nil	Nil

NAVAREA VII Messages with Immediate Priority

2012		2013		2014	
Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time
	N/A		N/A		N/A

3. **NAVTEX Coverage.**

Contact details for NAVTEX Stations (Operational status is confirmed)

Station	Transmitter Identification Character (T.I.C) – B1 Character	Contact No
Walvis Bay Maritime Radio	B	+264 64 203581 (24H) Mobile: +264 811242697
Cape Town (CT)	C	+27 21 551 0700
Port Elizabeth	I	PE and Durban is remotely controlled from CT Radio.
Durban	O	

4. **Operational Issues.** The States of Iles Comores and Madagascar are encouraged to communicate with the NAVAREA VII Coordinator and to adapt to the GMDSS and to implement MSI measures accordingly so that, where the degrees of hazard are known, that this information may be disseminated to warn mariners operating in the relevant area. For the safety of life, MSI awareness must be improved and the installation of radio communication equipment and the associated operator training is imperative.

The lack of NAVTEX Stations north of South African borders, including Namibia, are a persistent challenge. The installation of radio communication network equipment, as well as operator training is the two most important components that need to be addressed.

The current state of MSI in the SAIHC Region is listed in the GMDSS table below:

STATUS OF SHORE BASED FACILITIES FOR GMDSS

Country	A1 Area	A2 Area	A3/A4 Area	NAV TEX	SafetyNET	Notes
Angola	P	P	P	No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNet
Kenya	P	P		No	NAVAREA VIII	
Madagascar	P	P		No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNet
La Reunion	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNet
Malawi	NI	NI	NI			
Mauritius	Yes	Yes	P	Yes	NAVAREA VIII	
Mozambique	P	Yes	P	No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNet
Namibia	P	P	P	No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNet
Seychelles	P	P	P	No	NAVAREA VIII	
South Africa	P	P	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Tanzania	P	P	P	No	NAVAREA VIII	
Uganda	NI	NI	NI			

P = Planned or to be decided

NI = No Information

5. **Quality Management Survey.**

NAVAREA	ISO 9001 - 2000	Promulgate "In-Force" Bulletins	Promulgate "No-Warning" Messages	Monitor Broadcast in almost real time	24/7 contact information provided	Promulgate two scheduled broadcasts	IMO Master Plan updated
VII	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

6. **Contingency Planning.** To ensure the continuous operational capability of MSI dissemination via SATCOM C SafetyNET, contingency plans have been proposed and agreed in principle between South Africa, France and Australia. During 2014, the back-up service as per agreement between South Africa, France and Australia was successfully implemented and tested during November 2014.

7. **Capacity Building.** SAIHC have identified Capacity Building initiatives with MSI as a very important first phase component. The IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC) has established a capacity building fund (CBF) to facilitate seed-corn activities such as technical workshops, visits and training courses within the region. MSI training courses have been conducted in Mozambique, Maputo, Namibia and South Africa and a Phase 1 Skills and Charts and Awareness Course was conducted in November 2012 in South Africa and it is the intention to conduct a Phase 1 Skills and Chart Awareness Course in 2015.

8. **Other Activities.** MSI awareness must be improved and the installation of radio communication equipment and associated operator training is imperative. The continuous efforts of SAIHC through courses, technical visits and discussions at conferences are aimed to achieve this objective.

9. **NAVAREA Website. (http://www.sanho.co.za/navarea7_bulletins/bulletin.htm).**

SafetyNET and NAVTEX messages are published on both the website and internal SA Navy website (Intranet) and updated daily during office hours from Mon to Fri (07:30 – 16:00 SAST). The date and time is displayed at the very top of the messages in force. Outside normal office hours, MSI is monitored by Cape Naval Radio who provides a 24H watch-keeping service and is in constant telephone contact with the MSI Officer. Cape Town Radio is the primary 24H service operator responsible for the dissemination of MSI messages. All navigational warnings in force at any point in time are published and displayed on the SA Navy Intranet, as well as the Internet. These include messages older than 42 days.

10. **NAVAREA VII Contact Information.**

Urgent navigational information (24 Hour Service):

Fax : +27 21 787 2228

E-mail : navcomcen.cape@sanavy.co.za

Other navigational information (0730 - 1600 Mon - Fri) :

Fax : +27 21 787 2233

Phone : +27 21 787 2445/2444

E-mail : hydrosan@iafrica.com

General information (0730 - 1600 Mon - Fri) :

Phone : +27 21 787 2408

11. **Recommendations.** The States of Iles Comores and Madagascar should be encouraged to communicate all relevant MSI matters to the NAVAREA VII Coordinator in order disseminate these potentially hazardous matters to mariners operating in the relevant areas of interest. This requirement will be communicated to the delegates of these countries at the next SAIHC Conference that will be held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania over the period 22 to 23 September 2015.

12. **Action requested.** Report to be noted by the WNWNS 7 Meeting.

13. **Summary.**

- a. There remains a lack of NAVTEX Stations north of the South African international borders. Plans are currently formulated to bring a dedicated Namibian NAVTEX service back into operation.
- b. The slow progress and the lack of adequate MSI implementation by States in the Great Rift Valley in the Southern African region remains a persistent matter of concern.
- c. The RHC (SAIHC) continuously strive to instill the awareness of maritime safety and encourages the implementation of MSI measures by member states. The next SAIHC Conference will be held in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania over the period 22 to 23 September 2015 and an update of C-55 will be one of the outcomes.
- d. A contingency plan arrangement between NAVAREA VII and NAVAREA II with the latter acting as backup for the AOR-E and NAVAREA X acting as backup for the IOR have been agreed, successfully implemented and tested during November 2014.

- e. NAVAREA VII (SafetyNet) broadcasts are being conducted twice daily since 20 January 2014. All navigational warnings in force at any point in time are published and displayed on the SA Navy Intranet, as well as the Internet. These include messages older than 42 days.

LIMITS OF NAVAREAS AND NAVTEX STATIONS

