

## REPORT OF THE WORD-WIDE NAVIGATIONAL WARNING SERVICE

### SUB-COMMITTEE (WWNWS-SC)

<b>Submitted by:</b>	Chair
<b>Related Documents:</b>	Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information (IHO Publication S-53)
<b>Related Projects:</b>	S-124 development

<b>Chair:</b>	Mr. Peter Doherty, USA
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Mr. Trond Ski, Norway
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mr. David Wyatt, IHO
<b>Member States:</b>	Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, France, Greece, India, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Russia, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Turkey, UK, USA
<b>Members:</b>	IMO, WMO, IOC, IMSO
<b>Expert Contributors:</b>	Inmarsat, SONSAT, CIRM, Iridium
<i>See Annex A for full details</i>	

#### 1. Meetings Held During the Reporting Period

The WWNWS-SC monitors and guides the International Maritime Organization (IMO)/International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) World-Wide Navigational Warning Service (WWNWS, which includes NAVAREA and coastal warnings). The WWNWS-SC is responsible for studying and proposing new methods to enhance the provision of navigational warnings to mariners at sea, facilitating the implementation of the major changes in procedures for dissemination of navigational warnings and providing appropriate guidance to concerned IHO Member State Representatives to further the evolution of the WWNWS. The Sub-Committee also maintains a close liaison and cooperation with the WMO for its Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS).

The ninth meeting of the WWNWS Sub-Committee (WWNWS9) was hosted by the South African Navy Hydrographic Office and held at the Park Inn, Newlands, Cape Town, South Africa, from 28<sup>th</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 under the Chairmanship of Mr Peter Doherty of the United States of America (USA). Commander Christoff Theunissen, acting Hydrographer of South Africa, welcomed the meeting which was attended by 51 delegates from 21 IHO Member States, and included the Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Secretariat of the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO), the Chairs of IMO NAVTEX and International SafetyNET Coordinating Panels, Inmarsat, Iridium, South African Maritime Safety Agency (Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre) (SAMSA (MRCC)), Security of Navigation, Stabilisation, Advice and Training (including AWNIS) (SONSAT), Telkom Maritime Radio and the IHO Secretariat. The delegates included representatives of 19 NAVAREA Coordinators, one Sub-Area Coordinator and five National Coordinators.

All meeting documents are available from the IHO web site at:

[https://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/com\\_wg/CPRNW/WWNWS9/WWNWS9.htm](https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CPRNW/WWNWS9/WWNWS9.htm). The full report of the meeting is also available from this site.

The 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Document Review Working Group was held at the IMO, London, 27 February to 1 March 2018, the week immediately after the 5<sup>th</sup> session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications, and Search and Rescue (NCSR 5). The meeting was attended by 5 member States (Canada, Norway, Spain, UK and USA), and the representatives from Secretariats of the IMO, WMO and IMSO, Inmarsat and Iridium.

All meeting documents are available from the IHO web site at:

[http://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/com\\_wg/CPRNW/CPRNW\\_Doc-review/DRWG16/DRWG16.htm](http://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CPRNW/CPRNW_Doc-review/DRWG16/DRWG16.htm).

## 2. Work Programme

### WWNWS Documentation

As a consequence of the decisions made at the NCSR 5, in particular the changes to the Inmarsat satellite constellation and services, the DRWG was invited to undertake a priority review of the IMO Resolutions A.705(17), as amended - *Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information*, A.706(17), as amended - *World-Wide Navigational Warning Service*, and A.1051(27) - *World-Wide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service*. In addition, the DRWG was invited to review the IHO publication S-53 – *Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information (MSI)* – and the *International SafetyNET Manual* to ensure full harmonization with the IMO resolutions. The outcomes will be considered by the next (tenth) meeting of the WWNWS-SC (WWNWS10), which will be held from 27-31 August 2018 in Monaco and subsequently submitted to the 6<sup>th</sup> session of the NCSR in January 2019.

Iridium presented the initial version of their GMDSS mobile satellite system guidance document – *Iridium EGC Satellite Services Manual*, which was reviewed and a number of suggested amendments were offered by the Group. This follows the format of the *International SafetyNET Manual* but will remain a separate document until the system has been recognised by the IMO and a mature operational state has been achieved, after which consideration for a single generic manual for the two systems could be contemplated.

All draft documents under development by the Sub-Committee are available via the WWNWS page of the IHO web site. Member States are encouraged to review the documents and submit comments to the Chair (Mr Peter Doherty) and the IHO Secretariat (Assistant Director David Wyatt). Any proposed changes or amendments and further work will be undertaken at the DRWG17, which will be held the week after the sixth session of the NCSR at IMO Headquarters in London in late-January 2019. The drafting work will be finalised at WWNWS11, then submitted to the IMO for approval.

### GMDSS / MSI Briefing

The Sub-Committee received MSI self-assessment reports from all 21 NAVAREAs. A number of issues were highlighted, which required further investigation and input from the Chair of the WWNWS-SC, as well as the Chairs of the IMO SafetyNET and NAVTEX Coordinating Panels. The Chair agreed to assist NAVAREA Coordinators, through the IHO Secretariat, to gain the support of National Coordinators in ensuring that all SOLAS MSI responsibilities were being met.

The contents of the relevant Annexes of the GMDSS Master Plan were reviewed. The IHO Secretariat highlighted a number of differences between the same information contained in the Annexes of the GMDSS Master Plan and that contained in IHO Publication C-55 – *Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide*. NAVAREA Coordinators were requested to highlight to National Coordinators the conflicting information in the two documents and to request that they investigate to ensure consistency for their national entries.

The Secretariat of the WMO provided a brief on the activities of the Organization over the past year, this included details of the work programmes of the six regional associations and working groups and their activities, the need for increased cooperation between NAVAREA and METAREA Coordinators

and the continuous emergency response capability were all highlighted, as well as the activities of the regional training and global training centres. Preparations for the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of Joint Commission on Oceanography and Marine Meteorology (JCOMM-5) were highlighted and the intention to complete the review of IMO resolution A.1051(27) ready for final harmonization at the DRWG16 meeting.

The Secretariat of IMSO provided a presentation on the activities of IMSO and an up-date on the technical assessments of the Iridium system and the Inmarsat Fleet Broadband system as they seek recognition as new GMDSS mobile satellite service providers.

The Sub-Committee also received several other briefings. Inmarsat reported on progress on the Inmarsat-C EGC SafetyNET system developments, including the new SafetyNET II system. The Chair of the S-124 Correspondence Group updated the Sub-Committee on the progress in the development of the S-124 Navigation Warning S-100 based Product Specification. The Coordinator of the Correspondence Group noted his desire to stand down from his position as soon as a replacement could be identified, although he indicated he would remain engaged with the development of S-124. Mr Eivind Mong, Canadian Coast Guard, has since filled that position. Iridium provided an update on developments of the Iridium Satellite system, as the process towards approval recognition as a mobile satellite GMDSS service provider progresses.

NAVAREA XIV highlighted that the transfer of responsibility for MSI from Land Information New Zealand (LINZ) to Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (RCCNZ) had been completed. NAVAREA XIV also provided a live demonstration of the systems in use for assessing and processing information by operations room personnel to help decision making and the issuing of warnings.

### **MSI Capacity Building (CB) Training Course**

The meeting received updated information on the delivery of MSI training courses and the need for the NAVAREA Coordinators to work closely with the Regional CB Coordinators to help developing nations to reach the Phase 1 level (collection and circulation of nautical information, necessary to maintain existing charts and publications up to date) of the IHO CB Strategy. The meeting was informed that MSI courses had been conducted in 2017 in Barbados for members of the Meso-American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC) and in Fish Hoek, South Africa, for members of the North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission and the South Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission. Additionally it was noted that a further three courses were planned in 2018 for the South West Atlantic Hydrographic Commission, South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission and the Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission. The e-learning guided sessions for the East Atlantic Hydrographic Commission were highlighted, it was agreed that these could not replace the MSI training course but were considered to be an ideal pre-course preparation, particularly for coastal states with no established MSI organization.

### **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

Mr Peter Doherty, USA, was re-elected as Chair for the period 2017 to 2020 and Mr Trond Ski, Norway, was elected as vice-Chair. Two long serving members, Mr Alain Rouault (France), 7 years, and Mr Svante Håkansson (Sweden), 20 years, informed the meeting that they would be standing down from their positions as NAVAREA II and Sub-area Ib respectively and retiring at the end of the year.

### **Next Meeting**

The tenth meeting of the WWNWS-SC (WWNWS10) will be held in Monaco, 27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 and it was proposed there could be joint sessions with the Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warnings Service (WWMIWS) Committee (the restructured JCOMM body to replace the Expert Team on Maritime Safety Services (ETMSS)) and METAREA Coordinators. All NAVAREA Coordinators and National MSI Coordinators are encouraged to attend the meetings of the WWNWS-SC to broaden their experience and interact with each other.

## **3. Progress on IRCC Action Items**

1. Engage with Member States in their regions to identify potential instructors to accompany MSI trainings in order to become MSI trainers and report to IRCC.
  - WWNWS member regularly informed on the MSI Training Courses in their region and reminded of the necessity to support and participate as the NAVAREA MSI authority.
2. Consider using Trainer for Trainers (TFT) and e-learning methods to support the development of CB Phase 1 for developing coastal States and report back to IRCC.
  - No specific action taken at this time.
3. Encourage the attendance of Member States and Observers at WWNWS-SC meetings, to highlight the use of the Joint Manual on MSI to ensure correct terminology and formats used in MSI messages, to encourage closer engagement of the National MSI Coordinators of Member States with the relevant NAVAREA Coordinator(s) and report back to IRCC.
  - WWNWS members continually reminded to attend WWNWS meetings and the necessity for using the Joint Manual on MSI for format and structure of their messages. Additional guidance provided on the necessity for outreach to MS within the NAVAREA to enhance partnership engagement.
4. Encourage closer coordination between NAVAREA Coordinators and Regional CB Coordinators in planning and student selection for the CB MSI training courses.
  - Continued improvements made. MSI training course in Fish Hoek had proactive engagement with the planning arrangements and additionally, a high rate of competent and industry experienced students.

#### **4. Problems Encountered**

A critical issue for the continued success of the MSI course was the lack of qualified trainers; the Chair noted the only French instructor qualified and available to deliver the MSI course retired at the end of October 2017, this will restrict the opportunities for delivering courses in French. The lack of Spanish speaking instructors means that the course can only be delivered in English at present. It was suggested that a course could be developed to train new trainers, who had a suitable background and the necessary operational experience. It was recognised this would need to be funded and fitted into the IHO CB strategy plan, it was recommended this issue was raised to the next CBSC. The WWNWS-SC recorded its thanks to Australia, France, New Zealand, UK, and USA for their significant support in conducting the training courses and in the work undertaken in addressing the continuing requirement to review the training material to ensure consistency with the amended supporting documentation

#### **5. Any Other Items of Note**

The Chair highlighted the significant number of unannounced missile firings by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the grave concern over these operations, which pose a serious threat to maritime safety. The Chair noted the actions taken by NAVAREA XI to warn mariners after these rocket firings have occurred. The Chair also noted he would be highlighting this issue in his report to the NCSR5, requesting that the DPRK follow the requirements of IMO resolution 706(17), as amended, (MSC.1/Circ.1288, as amended) paragraph 4.2.1.3.13 and the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on MSI (MSC.1/Circ.1310, as amended) paragraph 2.4.1.4 to give a minimum of 5 days' notice prior to a firing.

#### **6. Conclusions and Recommendations**

##### **WWNWS Documentation:**

- Decisions made at the NCSR5, in particular the changes to the Inmarsat satellite constellation and services, and the Iridium GMDSS mobile satellite system application continue to be the primary factors dictating the update of the WWNWS and WWMIWS MSI documentation.

**MSI Capacity Building and MSI Training:**

- The MSI e-learning guided sessions are not suitable as a replacement for the MSI training course. The e-learning course is more appropriate for pre-course preparation, particularly for coastal states with no established MSI organization.
- The continued success of the MSI Training course is contingent upon qualified French and Spanish language instructors. Additional IHO CB Funds may be necessary to facilitate this training effort.

**Other:**

- The significant number of unannounced missile firings by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) over the past year poses a serious threat to maritime safety. The Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on MSI (MSC.1/Circ.1310, as amended) paragraph 2.4.1.4 provides specific guidance on a minimum of 5 days' notification prior to any wide area firing exercise. National Coordinators are reminded of this notification responsibility.

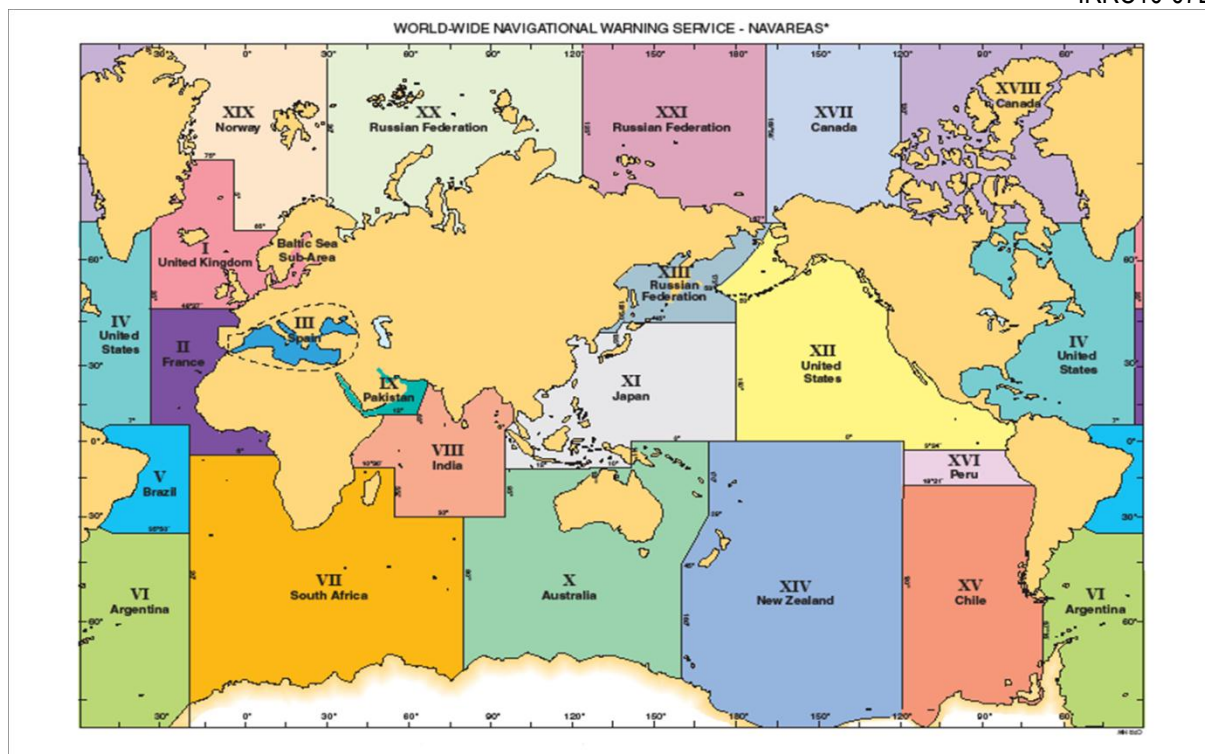
**7. Justifications and Impacts**

N/A

**8. Action requested of the Committee**

The Committee is invited to:

- a. take note of the information provided in this report on the outcomes of WWNWS9;
- b. request National Coordinators review the contents of the relevant Annexes of the GMDSS Master Plan and IHO Publication C-55 – *Status of Hydrographic Surveying and Nautical Charting Worldwide* – to ensure consistency for their national entries.
- c. urge the use of the Joint Manual on MSI to ensure correct terminology and formats are used in MSI messages;
- d. encourage closer engagement of the National MSI Coordinators of Member States with the relevant NAVAREA Coordinator(s);
- e. urge close liaison between regional CB Coordinators and the Chair WWNWS-SC on programming and candidate selection for MSI training;
- f. encourage the attendance of Member States and Observers at WWNWS-SC meetings; and
- g. take any other action it considers appropriate.



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