

Report to IRCC8

Submitted by IHB

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides details of the WWNWS-SC chair report to the 8th meeting of the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC8).

Action to be taken: Paragraph 2.

Related documents: None

1. See attached document.
2. The Sub-Committee is invited to note the information provided and take action as appropriate.

REPORT OF THE WORD-WIDE NAVIGATIONAL WARNING SERVICE

SUB-COMMITTEE (WWNWS-SC)

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

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

1. 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.
2. The seventh meeting of the WWNWS Sub-Committee (WWNWS7) was held at the IHO Headquarters in Monaco from 24 to 27 August 2015 under the chairmanship of Mr. Peter Doherty (USA). The meeting was attended by 42 delegates from 18 IHO Member States, the Secretariat of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC), the Secretariat of the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO), the Chairs of IMO NAVTEX and SafetyNET Coordinating Panels, Comité International Radio-Maritime (CIRM), Inmarsat, Iridium, Furuno Finland Oy and the Secretariat of the IHO. The delegates included representatives of 16 NAVAREA Coordinators, one Sub-area Coordinator and four National Coordinators.
3. All meeting documents are available from the IHO web site at: http://iho.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CPRNW/WWNWS7/WWNWS7.htm. The full report of the meeting is also available from this site.

WWNWS Documentation

4. The work of the 13th meeting of the Document Review Working Group (DRWG) was reviewed. In particular, the proposed editorial amendments to the IMO SafetyNET and NAVTEX Manuals were highlighted and endorsed by the Sub-Committee. The final draft versions of both Manuals were submitted separately to the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications, and Search and Rescue (see NCSR 3/15 and NCSR 3/15/1), where the proposed amendments were approved without alteration and only minor editorial changes identified. This is testament to the robust review processes within the WWNWS-SC and its DRWG.
5. The 14th meeting of the Document Review WG (DRWG14) undertook reviews of the IMO Resolutions A.1051(27) (*IMO/WMO Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service – Guidance Document*), A.705(17) (*Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information*) and A.706(17) (*World-Wide Navigational Warning Service*), A.664(16) (*Performance standards for enhanced group call equipment*), MSC.305(87) (*Guideline on operational procedures for the broadcast of maritime safety information concerning acts of piracy and piracy countermeasure operations*) and MSC.306(87) (*Revised performance standards for enhanced group call (EGC) equipment*) were passed to subject matter experts for preparation of proposed amendments for consideration at WWNWS8 in 2016. It is proposed to submit to these documents to NCSR4 in 2017. It was agreed to include the Maritime Safety Information (MSI) Capacity Building (CB) course training material in the review cycle to ensure that it reflected the recent amendments to the MSI guidance documents.
6. The Chair highlighted the need for close adherence to the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on MSI to ensure the correct terminology and formats were used by all MSI providers so that messages were structured and compliant with ECDIS requirements. The Chair was directed by the WWNWS-SC to request the NCSR highlighted the use of the Joint Manual on MSI to all MSI providers, particularly National Coordinators.
7. All draft documents under development by the Sub-Committee are available via the WWNWS page of the IHO web site (www.iho.int > Committees & WGs > IRCC > WWNWS). Member States are encouraged to review the documents and submit comments to the Chair of the WWNWS (Mr. Peter Doherty) and the Secretariat of the IHO (Assistant Director Mr. David Wyatt). Any proposed changes or amendments and further work will be considered at the IHO DRWG15, which will be held the week after NCSR4 at IMO Headquarters in London in mid-March 2017. The drafting work will be finalised at WWNWS9, then submitted to NCSR5 for consideration and subsequent IMO approval.

GMDSS / MSI Briefing

8. 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 WNWNS-SC, as well as the Chairs of the IMO SafetyNET and NAVTEX Coordinating Panels. The Chair agreed to assist NAVAREA Coordinators, through the Secretariat of the IHO, to gain the support of National Coordinators in ensuring that all SOLAS MSI responsibilities were being met.
9. The representative of the IMO provided a brief on the modernization of the GMDSS and the GMDSS Master Plan, noting the next revision, GMDSS/Circ.18, would be issued in mid-September after approval by the Chair of the IMO NAVTEX Coordination Panel and the Chair of the IMO SafetyNET Coordinating Panel. The representative of the Secretariat of the IMO noted that a GMDSS circular was being considered announcing the inclusion of a module in the Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) that will allow individual IMO Member States to update relevant information in the GMDSS Master Plan. Noting the desire for ease of updating, it was agreed that the IMO SafetyNET and NAVTEX Coordinating Panels would conduct some quality control and quality assurance to ensure no invalid information was published. It was also noted that a similar process would be required when additional service providers were operational in the future; it was also confirmed that a validation check would be undertaken by the Secretariat of the IMO. The representative of the Secretariat of the IMO urged that all Area Coordinators provide relevant input to the GMDSS modernization Correspondence Group (CG).
10. The contents of the relevant Annexes of the GMDSS Master Plan were reviewed. The Chair of the NAVTEX Coordinating Panel noted that there were eight amendments waiting input to Annex 8. Review by the Sub-Committee highlighted and identified a number of incorrect inputs during the meeting.
11. The representative of the WMO provided a brief on the activities of the Organization over the past year, including outcome from its Congress. Details of the work programmes of the six regional associations and working groups and their activities, increased cooperation between NAVAREA and METAREA Coordinators, the continuous emergency response capability were all highlighted, as well as the activities of the regional training and global training centres. An update on the multi-hazard early warning system was provided; the IHO and IMO were invited to participate in the network to develop appropriate world-wide policy and standards.
12. Director General of IMSO provided a presentation on the activities of IMSO and the process for conducting the technical assessment of potential new GMDSS mobile satellite service providers as directed by the NCSR and the MSC.

13. The representative of the IOC gave a presentation on the Tsunami Early Warning System and raised a number of issues for comment by the WWNWS-SC. The relationships between NAVAREA and METAREA Coordinators, National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWCs), national authorities and mariners were highlighted and the process for warnings on tidal surges and storm generated waves, particularly in low lying coastal regions, was explained.
14. The Sub-Committee also received several other briefings. Inmarsat reported on progress on the Inmarsat-C EGC SafetyNET system developments. The Chair of the IHO 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. Denmark provided a briefing on the European Union ACCSEAS (*Accessibility for Shipping, Efficiency Advantages and Sustainability*) project, and on a new web based system for displaying MSI and other maritime data on a Maritime Message Information web site. The process for creating warnings in the system was also demonstrated. 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. IHB Director Gilles Bessero gave a background brief and presentation on the impact of e-navigation on the provision of hydrographic services. The presentation covered the likely future developments in the e-navigation project, and highlighted in particular the impacts on MSI provision and the work of the NAVAREA Coordinators.

MSI Capacity Building (CB) Training Course

15. 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. As part of this cooperation, the proposed text of an MSI assessment to be included in national reports to meetings of Regional Hydrographic Commissions was discussed. The meeting was informed that one MSI course had been conducted in Tokyo, Japan for participants from the East Asia Hydrographic Commission from 3 to 5 March and a further course was programmed to be held in Istanbul for participants from the Mediterranean and Black Seas Hydrographic Commission from 20 to 23 October. It was also noted that a further two courses have been funded for the Meso American - Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission and the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission in 2016.
16. The Chair noted there were only one French and one Spanish instructors qualified and available to deliver the MSI course, which restricted the opportunities for delivering courses in these two languages. The meeting recorded its thanks to Australia, France, New Zealand, UK, and USA for their significant support in

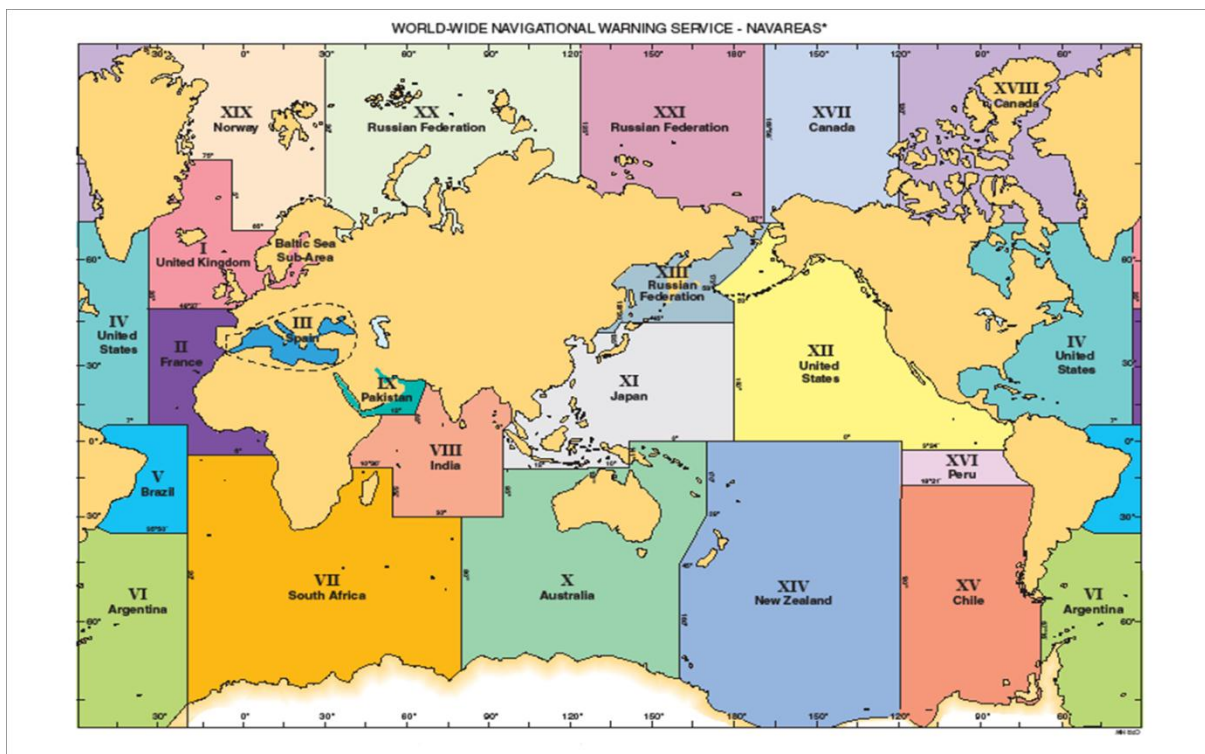
conducting the training courses and in the work undertaken in addressing the continuing requirement to review the training material to ensure consistency with the amended supporting documentation.

Next Meeting

17. The eight meeting of the WWNWS-SC (WWNWS8) will take place in Ålesund, Norway, from 12th to 16th September 2016. 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.

Action requested of the Committee

18. The Committee is invited to:
 - a. take note of the information provided in this report;
 - b. encourage the attendance of Member States and Observers at WWNWS-SC meetings;
 - c. raise awareness, through national delegations, of the impact of e-navigation on the provision of MSI;
 - d. highlight the use of the Joint Manual on MSI to ensure correct terminology and formats are used in MSI messages;
 - e. encourage closer engagement of the National MSI Coordinators of Member States with the relevant NAVAREA Coordinator(s);
 - f. encourage closer coordination between WWNWS-SC and Regional CB Coordinators in planning and student selection for the CB MSI training course; and
 - g. take any other action it considers appropriate.



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