

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, IHO
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Members:	IMO, WMO, IOC, IMSO
Expert Contributors:	Inmarsat, SONSAT, 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. The Sub-Committee also maintains a close liaison and cooperation with the WMO for its Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS).
2. The 8th meeting of the WWNWS-SC (WWNWS8) was hosted by the Norwegian Coastal Administration (NCA) and held at the Quality Waterfront Hotel, Ålesund, Norway, from 12 to 16 September under the chairmanship of Mr Peter Doherty of the United States of America. Mr Arve Dimmen, Director of Maritime Safety at the NCA, welcomed the meeting which was attended by 38 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 International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO), the Chairs of IMO NAVTEX and International SafetyNET Coordinating Panels, Inmarsat and Iridium. The delegates included representatives of 16 NAVAREA Coordinators, one Sub-Area Coordinator and three National Coordinators.
3. All meeting documents are available from the IHO web site at:

http://www.ihp.int/mtg_docs/com_wg/CPRNW/WWNWS8/WWNWS8.htm. The full report of the meeting is also available from this site.

WWNWS Documentation

4. The work of the 14th meeting of the Document Review Working Group (DRWG) was reviewed. In particular, the proposed editorial amendments to the IMO resolutions A.705(17) – *Promulgation of Maritime Safety Information*, A.706(17) – *World-Wide Navigational Warning Service* – and A.1051(27) – *IMO/WMO World-Wide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service*.
5. The 15th meeting of the Document Review WG (DRWG14) undertook editorial reviews 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.306(87) - *Revised Performance Standards for Enhanced Group Call (EGC) Equipment*. The outcomes will be considered by the next (ninth) meeting of the WWNWS-SC (WWNWS9), which will be held from 28 August to 1 September 2017. Inmarsat presented the revised draft of the Inmarsat Users' Handbook and Iridium presented the initial version of their GMDSS mobile satellite system guidance document, both of which were reviewed and a number of suggested amendments were offered by the Group.
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.ihp.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 DRWG16, which will be held the week after NCSR5 at IMO Headquarters in London at the end of February 2018. The drafting work will be finalised at WWNWS10, then submitted to NCSR6 for consideration and subsequent IMO approval.

GMDSS / MSI Briefing

8. The Sub-Committee received MSI self-assessment reports from all 21 NAVAREAs. There was a pleasing high level of consistency of service described in all of the reports. 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 Secretariat of the IHO, to gain the support of National Coordinators in ensuring that all SOLAS MSI responsibilities were being met.
9. The Secretariat of the IMO provided a brief on the modernization of the GMDSS and the GMDSS Master Plan, noting the next revision would be issued in mid-September

as COMSAR/Circ.19, after approval by the Chair of the IMO NAVTEX Coordination Panel and consultation with the Chair of the IMO SafetyNET Coordinating Panel. The representative of the IMO Secretariat urged that all Area Coordinators provide relevant input to the GMDSS modernization Correspondence Group. 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 they investigate to ensure consistency for their national entries.

10. At the 15th meeting of the DRWG, the IMO Secretariat gave a demonstration of the draft IMO Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) GMDSS module, which will replace Annexes 7 and 8 to the GMDSS Master Plan and will allow IMO Member States to submit amendments directly. A number of issues and suggestions were provided to improve the current draft version.
11. 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.
12. The Secretariat of IMSO provided a presentation on the activities of IMSO and an up-date on the technical assessment of the Iridium system as it seeks recognition as a new GMDSS mobile satellite service provider.
13. 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 Product Specification based on S-100. NAVAREA X provided a presentation on the e-Broadcast capability developed by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), which included a live on-line demonstration of the capability. Inmarsat reported on progress on the Inmarsat-C EGC SafetyNET system developments, including the new SafetyNET II system. 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.

MSI Capacity Building (CB) Training Course

14. The Sub-Committee 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 RHC meetings was discussed. The meeting was informed that MSI courses had been conducted in 2016 in St Lucia for members of the Meso American and Caribbean Hydrographic Commission (MACHC) and in Wellington, New Zealand, for members of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission. Additionally it was noted that a further three courses were planned in 2017 for the

MACHC, North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission and the South Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission.

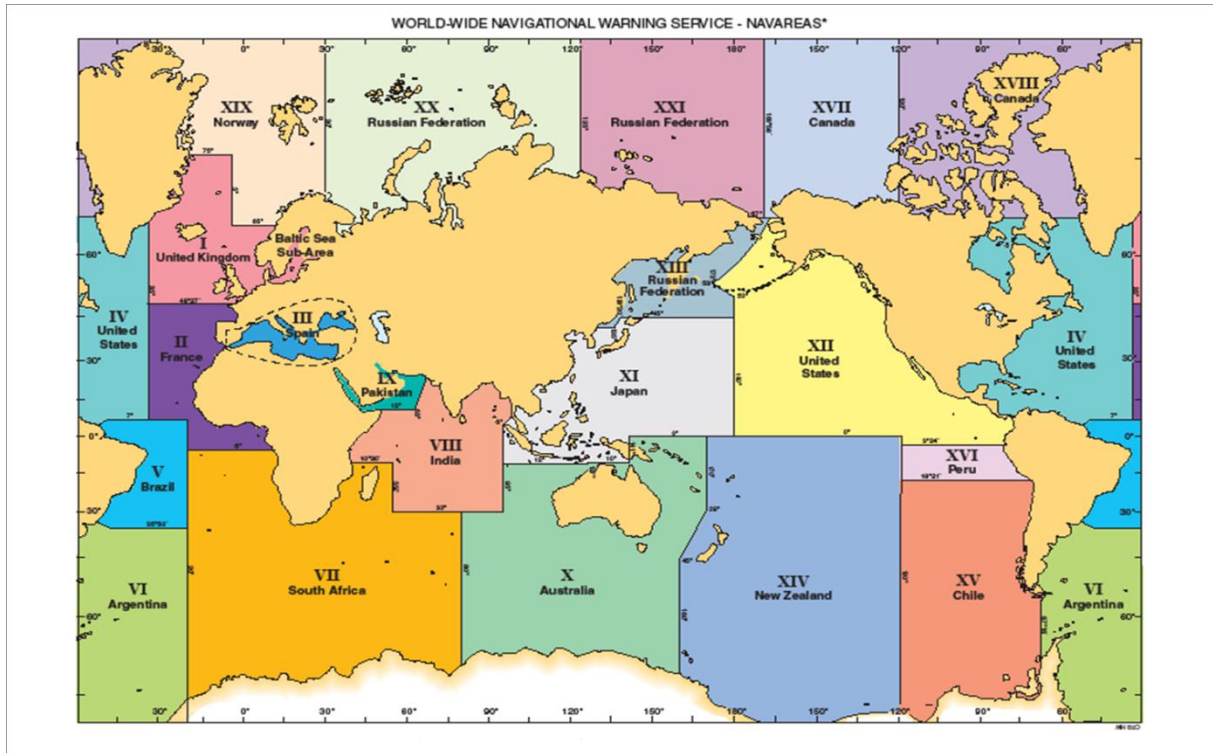
15. A critical issue for the continued success of the MSI course was the lack of qualified trainers; the Chair noted there was only one French instructor qualified and available to deliver the MSI course, which restricted the opportunities for delivering courses in languages other than English. It was 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 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

16. The ninth meeting of the WWNWS-SC (WWNWS9) will take place in Cape Town, South Africa, from 28th August to 1st September 2017. 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

17. 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. highlight 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. encourage closer coordination between WWNWS-SC and Regional CB Coordinators in planning and student selection for the CB MSI training course; and
 - f. take any other action it considers appropriate.



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