



NIOHC Seminar

Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, 25 March 2019

Importance of MSI
Basic steps for implementing MSI



Strategic aspects of MSI

Why is MSI so important?

Maritime Safety Information is the fundamental piece of information that needs to be made available to the mariner to ensure safety of navigation!

Through the WWNWS, the mariner will receive the elements to update the nautical charts and publications.



Strategic aspects of MSI

Why is MSI so important?

Without MSI, hydrographic services (SOLAS V/9) can't be provided



What is MSI

Reference:

IHO Publication S-53 *Joint IMO/IHO/WMO
Manual on Maritime Safety Information* (January
2016)



What is MSI

Maritime Safety Information (MSI) means navigational and meteorological warnings, meteorological forecasts and other urgent safety-related messages broadcast to ships.



What is MSI

Maritime safety information service means the internationally and nationally coordinated network of broadcasts containing information which is necessary for safe navigation.



What is MSI

Maritime safety information is grouped into:

- Local warnings (ports)
- **Coastal warnings (national coordinator)**
- **Sub-area warnings (Sub-area coordinator)**
- **NAVAREA warnings (NAVAREA coordinator)**



What is MSI

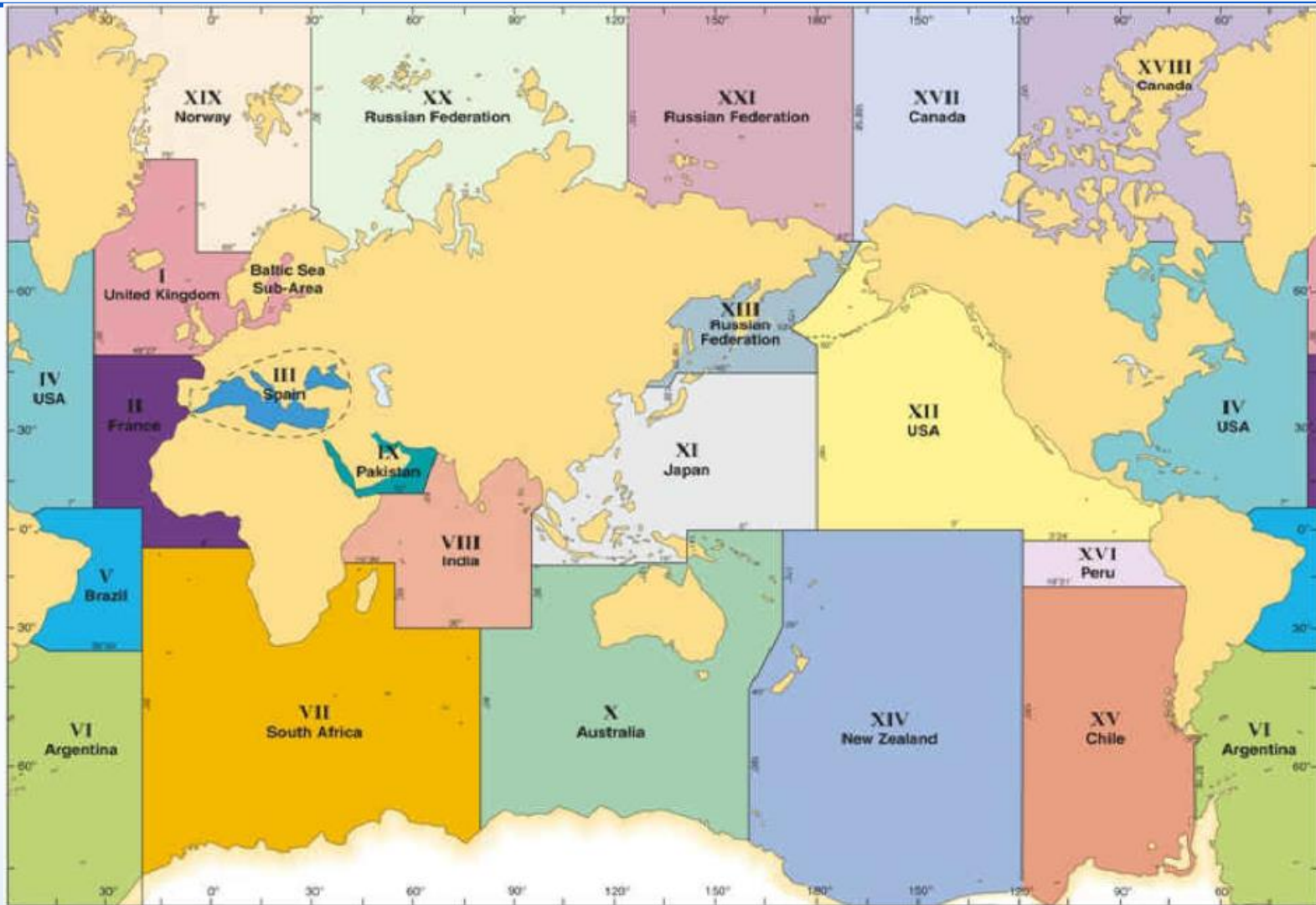
Maritime safety information is promulgated by the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) means the global communications service based upon automated systems, both satellite and terrestrial, to provide distress alerting and promulgation of maritime safety information for mariners.



What is MSI



NAVAREAS



Basic steps to implement MSI

1. Designate a National Coordinator
2. Train the National Coordinator
3. Establish a communication plan to access relevant information
4. Collect the relevant information
5. (Draft the MSI messages)
6. Send MSI details/messages to the NAVAREA Coordinator



Basic steps to implement MSI

The national Coordinator must have:

- established sources of information relevant to the safety of navigation within national waters;
- effective communications, e.g. telephone, email, facsimile, internet, , etc. with the NAVAREA/Sub-area Coordinator and adjacent national Coordinators; and
- access to broadcast systems for transmission to their area of national responsibility.



Basic steps to implement MSI

The national Coordinator must:

- endeavour to be informed of all events that could significantly affect the safety of navigation within their area of national responsibility;
- assess all information immediately upon receipt for relevance to navigation in their area of national responsibility;
- select information for broadcast in accordance with the guidance given in paragraph 4.2;
- draft coastal warnings in accordance with the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information;
- direct and control the broadcast of coastal warnings, in accordance with the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974, as amended;
- forward coastal warnings and relevant associated information which may require wider promulgation directly to their NAVAREA/Sub-area Coordinator and/or adjacent national Coordinators as appropriate, using the quickest possible means;



Basic steps to implement MSI

- broadcast in-force bulletins not less than once per week at a regular scheduled time, if providing broadcast services ;
- promulgate the cancellation of coastal warnings which are no longer valid;
- act as the central point of contact on matters relating to navigational warnings within their area of national responsibility;
- promote the use of established international standards and practices in the promulgation of navigational warnings within their area of national responsibility;
- monitor the broadcasts which they originate, to ensure that the warnings have been correctly broadcast;
- maintain records of source data relating to coastal warnings in accordance with the requirement of the national Administration of the National Coordinator; and
- take into account the need for contingency planning.



Basic steps to implement MSI

The following subjects are considered suitable for broadcast as NAVAREA warnings, this list is not exhaustive and should be regarded only as a guideline:

- casualties to lights, fog signals, buoys and other aids to navigation affecting main shipping lanes;
- the presence of dangerous wrecks in or near main shipping lanes and, if relevant, their marking;
- establishment of major new aids to navigation or significant changes to existing ones, when such establishment or change might be misleading to shipping ;
- the presence of large unwieldy tows in congested waters;
- drifting hazards (including derelict ships, ice, mines, containers, other large items over 6 metres in length, etc.);
- areas where Search and Rescue (SAR) and anti pollution operations are being carried out (for avoidance of such areas);
- the presence of newly discovered rocks, shoals, reefs and wrecks likely to constitute a danger to shipping, and, if relevant, their marking;
- unexpected alteration or suspension of established routes;
- cable or pipe laying activities, seismic surveys, the towing of large submerged objects for research or exploration purposes, the employment of manned or unmanned submersibles, or other underwater operations constituting potential dangers in or near shipping lanes;



Basic steps to implement MSI

- the establishment of research or scientific instruments in or near shipping lanes;
- the establishment of offshore structures in or near shipping lanes;
- significant malfunctioning of radio-navigation services and shore-based maritime safety information (MSI) radio or satellite services;
- information concerning events which might affect the safety of shipping, sometimes over wide areas, e.g. naval exercises, missile firings, space missions, nuclear tests, ordnance dumping zones, etc; minimum 5 days notice of event;
- operating anomalies identified within ECDIS including ENC issues;
- acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships;
- Tsunamis through IOC Tsunami Warning Service and the Tsunami Service Providers (TSP) and other natural phenomena, such as abnormal changes to sea level;
- World Health Organization (WHO) health advisory information; and
- security-related requirements .



Basic steps to implement MSI

Examples of MSI message (1):

NAVAREA VIII 145/14

SRI LANKA – WEST COAST.

Ona Gala isolated danger buoy.

CHART _____ (INT _____).

ISOLATED DANGER BUOY 06-50.0N 079-
49.5E UNLIT



Basic steps to implement MSI

Examples of MSI message (2):

NAVAREA IX 346/14

ARABIAN SEA/OMAN SEA.

Ra's al Hadd Light.

CHART _____ (INT _____).

Racon (T) 22-32.0N 059-48.0E

INOPERATIVE.



Conclusion

It is much more inexpensive to send MSI than to remediate the damages caused by the lack of proper information and outdated charts.





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