

Scoping Meeting on the Development of Tsunami Early Warning Systems particularly in the Indian Ocean Region over the Next Six Months

Programme

**1400-1800 hours, 22 January 2005,
Kairaku Room, Portopia Hotel, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan**

Organisers

UN/ISDR Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW)
UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)

Outline of the meeting

This ad-hoc meeting of national representatives, UN organizations and experts aims to assist in the coordination of the many initiatives being started or being planned to develop tsunami early warning systems, with particular reference to the countries of the Indian Ocean region, but also with reference to the need for more effective tsunami early warning systems globally.

While not formally part of the WCDR programme, the meeting is being held within the WCDR premises and is open only to existing WCDR-registered delegates.

The meeting will commence in the afternoon immediately after the closure of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, in order to capitalize on the presence in Kobe of numerous senior delegates and experts. It will include formal presentations followed by a workshop-style open discussion. Interpretation services in the six UN languages and Japanese will be available until 17:00 pm, with only English thereafter. A report of the meeting will be prepared.

The meeting programme will describe the necessary institutional and operational components of tsunami early warning systems, will review the results of the various relevant WCDR sessions, outline current initiatives and seek to develop the elements of a coordinated process for moving forward. The meeting will be an important step in the development of a coordinated process to develop a regional tsunami early warning system.

Meeting objectives

1. To establish for participants a basic picture of a national tsunami early warning system and its supporting regional and international support and coordination mechanisms.
2. Consider the outcomes and recommendations of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction concerning tsunami risks and effective tsunami early warning systems.
3. To elucidate current views, capacities and initiatives toward the development of tsunami early warning systems in the Indian Ocean region.
4. To work toward a coordinated framework and timetable of activities for the rapid development of tsunami early warning systems, particularly in the Indian Ocean region and over the next six months.

Meeting Agenda

The first half of meeting will provide necessary background information and viewpoints.

Co-Chairs: *Sálvano Briceño, Director, International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)*
Patricio Bernal, Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO

1400 – 1420 Introduction and organisational roles.
Co-Chairs

1420 – 1440 Building blocks of national early warning systems; operational and institutional components, and mechanisms for regional and international support and coordination.
Laura Kong, Director, International Tsunami Information Center

1440 – 1450 Key outcomes from the WCDR Special Session “Promotion of tsunami disaster mitigation in the Indian Ocean” including regional capacities and needs, and steps toward securing an interim basic warning capacity.
Koichi Nagasaka, Director-General, Japan Meteorological Agency

1450 – 1500 Sea Level network of the Indian Ocean: role of GLOSS.
Bernard Kilonksi, University of Hawaii and member GLOSS Committee

1500 – 1510 Improvements being made or planned in meteorological communications and capacities to support tsunami early warning systems.
Maryam Golnaraghi, Chief, Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Programme, World Meteorological Organization

1510 – 1515 Regional ministerial meeting, Phuket, and regional perspectives.
Thakur Phanit, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand

1515 – 1520 Steps toward building a public information and community action agenda.
Marc Gordon, DIPECHO, Humanitarian Aid Office, EU

1520 – 1525 The OCHA Flash Appeal and other resource mobilization initiatives.
Reid Basher, UN/ISDR Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning (PPEW)

1525 – 1530 UNDP proposals and plans in support of early warning system development.
James Rawley, Deputy Director, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, UNDP
Andrew Maskrey, Chief, Disaster Reduction Unit, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, UNDP

1530 – 1600 Potential contributions of other organisations.
Speakers from the floor (on request)

1600 – 1630 Refreshment break.

The second half of meeting will adopt a workshop style in order to seek a coordinated framework and process to move ahead.

- Co-Chairs: *Patricio Bernal, Executive Secretary, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO*
Sálvano Briceño, Director, International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)
- 1630 – 1645 Plans and proposals for developing an Indian Ocean warning system.
Peter Pissierssens, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), of UNESCO
- 1645 – 1700 Preliminary Identification of the main events and processes, clarifying their purposes (assessments, design activities, training, conferences, governance of the system.)
- 1700 – 1710 Toward a coordinated timetable.
- 1710 – 1725 Toward the coordination of specific activities, particularly in-region assessments and the in-region conference.
- 1725 – 1755 Beyond the Indian Ocean: steps toward establishing or improving tsunami early warning systems in other basins.
- 1755 - 1800 Conclusion by Chairs.

Reception

The participants are invited by the Organisers to the reception to be held at Rainbow room, in the South Wing, 16th floor, 18:30 - 20:30.

Acknowledgement

The organisers express their thanks to the Asian Disaster Reduction Center for making the local arrangements for the meeting.