Programme of Regional/Thematic Special Session

Promotion of tsunami disaster mitigation in the Indian Ocean
- Towards establishment of tsunami early warning systems in the Indian Ocean by sharing experiences in the Pacific Ocean -

Date: 09:00-11:45, Wednesday, the 19th of January
Venue: Kairaku Meeting Room, Portopia Hotel
Language: English and Japanese available
Organizers: Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), Cabinet Office (CAO), Japan, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport (MLIT), Japan, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) and UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO/IOC)
Partners: Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Japan and Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan

Outline of the Session:
Chair: Mr. Koichi Nagasaka
  Director-General, Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA), Japan

09:00-09:10 Opening Address
- Scope of the Sessions -
  Mr. Koichiro Matsuura
  Director-General, UNESCO

09:10-09:30 Keynote Speech
- Framework and activities of UNESCO/IOC/ICG/ITSU -
  Dr. Laura Kong
  Director, International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC)
  This speech will focus on the international coordination functions of ITSU among member countries in the Pacific Ocean including the role of the ITIC and the major activities which ITSU has developed.
09:30-10:50 **Session 1**
- Current status of capacities on tsunami warning system -

  *This session will review tsunami early warning systems in the Pacific Ocean region not only against tsunamis from far-off origin but also against tsunamis from near-by origin. It will also highlight the importance of institutional and operational capacities of national and international systems in the Indian Ocean region through the experiences gained from the tsunami on the 26th of December, 2004.*

09:30-10:00 **Reports from the Pacific Region**
- Roles and operations of Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific -
  - Dr. Charles McCreery  
    Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC), U.S.A.
  - Mr. Noritake Nishide  
    Director, Administration Division  
    Seismological and Volcanological Department,  
    Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA)

10:00-10:50 **Reports from the Indian Ocean region**
- Challenges for the establishment of tsunami early warning system -
  10:05-10:10  
  Dr. P.J.Prih Harjadi  
  Director, Geophysical Data and Information Center  
  Meteorological and Geophysical Agency  
  Republic of Indonesia

  10:10-10:15  
  Mr. Kriengkrai Khovadhana  
  Deputy Director-General, Thai Meteorological Department  
  Kingdom of Thailand

  10:15-10:20  
  Dr. K. Radhakrishan  
  Director, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Department of Ocean Development  
  India

  10:20-10:25  
  Mr. Sarath Weerawamakula  
  Director, Geological Survey and Mines Bureau  
  Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka

  10:25-10:30  
  Dr. Abdulahi Majeed  
  Chief Executive of Meteorology  
  and Deputy Minister of Environment Construction  
  Republic of Maldives

  10:30-10:40  
  Comments from  
  Mr. Akihiro Teranishi  
  Senior Researcher, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)  
  Mr. Tsukasa Shimogouchi  
  Director, Disaster Management Division  
  Fire and Disaster Management Agency, Japan

  10:40-10:50  
  Exchange of Opinions
Session 2 (Panel Discussion)

- Possible actions for establishment and operation of tsunami early warning system -

This session will seek possible concrete actions for establishment of tsunami early warning system in the Indian Ocean consisting of the national systems operated by respective countries and of an international center that supports them in issuing tsunami early warning information for the Indian Ocean region with technical assistance through partnership promoted by the international community. It will also feature a common strategy by sharing information, expertise and experiences in the international community.

Coordinator: Dr. Kenji Satake
Chair, Tsunami Commission
International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)
(Deputy Director of Active Fault Research Center
National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology)

Panellists:
Dr. Laura Kong
Director, International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC)

Dr. Charles McCreery
Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC), U.S.A.

Dr. Geoff Love
Director of Meteorology, Bureau of Meteorology
Australia

Dr. P.J.Prih Harjadi
Director, Geophysical Data and Information Center
Meteorological and Geophysical Agency
Republic of Indonesia

Dr. Maryam Golnaraghi
Chief, Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Programme
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

Professor Fumihiko Imamura
Disaster Control Research Center
Graduate School of Engineering, Tohoku University, Japan

Mr. Shuhei Kazusa
Director for Earthquake and Volcanic Disaster Management
Cabinet Office, Japan

Mr. Noritake Nishide
Director, Administration Division
Seismological and Volcanological Department
Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA)

Closing Remarks by Chair

- Summary and Closure of the Session -

This summary will be delivered to the Special Session on the Indian Ocean Disaster in the Intergovernmental Segment to be held on Thursday Morning, the 20th of January, 2005.