

Note: These concept notes are as received from partner organizations



**Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2016
New Delhi, India
02-05 November 2016**

**Concept Note for Preparatory Day session
Hotel The Ashok, New Delhi**

Event title	Special Technical Session for the World Tsunami Awareness Day
Event code	PC-16
Date and Time	Wednesday, 2 nd November, 14.00-17.00
Venue/ Room no.	Banquet hall, Third Floor
Organizers	<p>Lead: UNISDR Collaborators: UNESCO IOC, Government of Japan Contact Details* (lead): UNISDR Name: Jerry Velasquez & Yuki Matsuoka Designation: Jerry Velasquez, Chief, Advocacy and Stakeholder Coordination Yuki Matsuoka, Head, UNISDR Office in Japan Email and phone number: velasquezg@un.org matsuoka@un.org (+81 80 4146 9648) Organization name and address: UNISDR Office in Japan, DRI-East 5F, 1-5-2 Wakinohama-Kaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe-City, Hyogo 651-0073 Japan</p>
Session Objectives	<p>The session will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect the link between DRR community and Tsunami & Early Warning community • Share experiences on tsunami disasters, preparedness, risk reduction and response, and identify lessons learned and good practices through presentations by tsunami experienced/prone countries and experts from both DRR and early warning, in particular along with the WTAD theme on “Live to Tell”, • Assess the current status and critical gaps of tsunami risk reduction, awareness and early warning in Asia, • Draw recommendations on how to address the identified gaps and challenges and to integrate tsunami risk in national DRR policies and

	strategies to reduce tsunami mortality.
Background and context	<p>The UN General Assembly, in its resolution (A/C.2/70/L.11/Rev.1) decided to designate 5 November as World Tsunami Awareness Day; Inviting all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe World Tsunami Awareness Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise public awareness of the risk caused by tsunamis; Requesting the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), in collaboration with relevant organizations of the United Nations system, mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67, to facilitate the observance of World Tsunami Awareness Day, and stressed that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions.”</p> <p>The resolution also reaffirms the Sendai Framework for DRR, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the International Day for Disaster Reduction, hinting at the linkages between the possible themes of the commemoration of the World Tsunami Awareness Day.</p> <p>To support the spirit of GA resolution, UNISDR proposed to align the International Day for Disaster Reduction dedicated this year to the target 1 of the Sendai Framework For Disaster Risk Reduction (Reducing mortality with the World Tsunami Awareness Day for 2016 and proposed “Live to Tell” as the main theme of the World Tsunami Awareness Day by focusing on reducing tsunami mortality.</p> <p>Considering the World Tsunami Awareness Day is at the closing day (5th November) of the 7th AMCDRR, it is opportune to have a Special Technical Session dedicated to the tsunami DRR within the 7th AMCDRR, together with the commemoration of the World Tsunami Awareness Day on 5th November at the Closing Ceremony of the 7th AMCDRR.</p>
Session format and programme	<p>13:00-13.20 - Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerry Velasquez, Chief, Advocacy and Stakeholder Coordination (UNISDR), as a MC for the session, introduces objectives of the World Tsunami Awareness Day (WTAD) and the objectives of the session • High level participant from Japan (to be confirmed) on the establishment of the World Tsunami Awareness Day at UN General Assembly • Presentation of short video PSA on WTAD <p>13.20-14.20 - Panel Discussion 1 Theme: “Evacuation Drills and SOPs in India and Seychelles” Moderator Mr. Tony Elliott, former head of the Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOTWS).</p>

This panel discussion will share and discuss the results and observations from the two evacuation drills conducted in India and Seychelles by Government with support from the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO) and UNISDR.

- **Panelist 1:** Head of the Tsunami Warning System in India from the Government of India (to report on the recently conducted tsunami evacuation drill in India in September)
- **Panelist 2:** Senior official from Division of Risk and Disaster Management, the Government of Seychelles (to report on the recently conducted tsunami evacuation drill conducted in September)
- **Panelist 3:** Media person from India who is involved in the tsunami early warning system (to share views from media perspective to the recently conducted tsunami evacuation drills in India as well as media roles for tsunami DRR).
- **Panelist 4:** Prof. Fumihiko Imamura, International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University in Japan (to share initiatives, data, measures to advance tsunami risk reduction as well as technical observations from the Seychelles event)

Building on the presentations (10 minutes each) from the above panelist, the moderator will ask questions to the panelists by focusing on the following points and also open the floor if any comments and suggestions from the audience:

- Reflections and lessons learned from the conducted two tsunami drills and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs for tsunami) in India and Seychelles.
- Assess current tsunami risks, challenges and gaps in SOPs for tsunami, early warning systems and preparedness measures
- Evidence action and propose recommendations to reduce tsunami mortality

14:20 – 14:30 (Break)

14:30 - 15.30 hrs. Panel Discussion 2

Theme: “Reducing tsunami mortality – lessons and good practices”

Moderator - Ms. Laura Kong, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S Department of Commerce

This panel discussion will discuss and identify lessons and good practices for reducing tsunami mortality by sharing and learning from different experiences.

Each panelist will have 10 minutes presentation to share their experiences including gaps, challenges, and good practices, which will be followed by moderated discussion.

- **Panelist 1:** Expert from Thailand, a tsunami experienced and prone

	<p>country (to share its tsunami experiences, challenges, and progress in measures to prepare for future tsunami)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Panelist 2: Mr. Thorkild Aarup, Head of the UNESCO Tsunami Unit (to share the 10-year progress of Tsunami Early Warning Systems since 2004) • Panelist 3: Mr. Yukimoto Ito, Vice Mayor of Sendai City, as a tsunami experienced local government (to share its tsunami experiences, challenges, and progress in preparedness and DRR measures for future tsunami) <p>Building on the presentations (10 minutes each) from the above panelist, the moderator will ask questions to the panelists by focusing on the following points and also open the floor if any comments and suggestions from the audience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons learned and good practices from past tsunami experiences, indicating the need to further strengthen disaster reduction and preparedness measures • Assess current tsunami risks, challenges and gaps in early warning systems and preparedness measures • Evidence action and propose recommendations to reduce tsunami mortality <p>15:30 – 15:45 - Wrap up of the Panel Discussions The two moderators of the panel discussions will sum up the discussions including recommendations drawn from the panel discussions</p> <p>15.45 – 16.00 - Closing remarks MC will highlight main points from the session High level representative will close the session (ASG UNESCO)</p>
<p>Intended main outcome and Key messages</p>	<p>This session will contribute to further dissemination of and raise awareness on the newly established World Tsunami Awareness Day, considering 2016 is the 1st year for its observance. The results of presentations from countries and experts and a proposed panel discussion will identify current gaps and challenges and will provide inputs to a set of recommendations drawn from this session. The set of recommendations is expected to contribute to the outcomes of the 7th AMCDRR.</p> <p>Key messages (to be confirmed):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tsunami disaster is less frequent, but once occurs, it can be a most destructive disaster. • Effective awareness and evacuation drills are the key to save lives and reduce mortality from tsunami disasters • Worldwide commemoration for the World Tsunami Awareness Day contribute to global awareness on tsunami risks
<p>Background document</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN General Assembly, in its resolution (A/C.2/70/L.11/Rev.1) • Tsunami Warning and Mitigation Systems to protect Coastal Communities, Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning, and Mitigation System (IOTWS) 2005–2015 Fact Sheet May 2015

	<p>(http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0023/002336/233627e.pdf)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Indian Ocean Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System 10 years after the Indian Ocean Tsunami: Achievements, Challenges, Remaining Gaps and Policy Perspectives http (www.wcdrr.org/wcdrr-data/uploads/857/Indian%20Ocean%20Tsunami%20International%20Conference%20Summary%20Statement%202014.pdf)
Technical Equipment	Projector, computer, microphones