



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات

政府间海洋学委员会

UNESCO – 7 Place de Fontenoy - 75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP, France
<http://ioc.unesco.org> - contact phone: +33 (0)1 45 68 03 18
E-mail: v.ryabinin@unesco.org

IOC Circular Letter No 2874
(Available in English only)

IOC/VR/BA/eba
13 January 2022

- To :** CARIBE-EWS Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP)
CARIBE-EWS National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWC)
CARIBE-EWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC)
ICG/CARIBE-EWS Chair and Vice-Chairpersons
- cc. :** Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC,
Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO, and
National Commissions for UNESCO of ICG/CARIBE-EWS Member States
Directors of UNESCO and IOC Regional Offices in the Caribbean Region
Regional Organizations cooperating with UNESCO/IOC
NAVAREA Coordinators
Chair IHO/IMO/WMO World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub-Committee
Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center

**Subject: Announcement of the CARIBE WAVE 22 Tsunami Exercise
in the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions on 10 March 2022**

The Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions at its eighth session ([ICG/CARIBE EWS-VIII](#), Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 29 April–1 May 2013), decided to conduct tsunami exercises named “CARIBE WAVE” on an annual basis leaving each Member State to define its level of participation.

At its 15th session (online, 27–29 April 2021), ICG/CARIBE-EWS recommended that Exercise CARIBE WAVE 22 take place on 10 March 2022 at 14:00:00 UTC (Coordinated Universal Time). The following two hypothetical scenarios will be used in this exercise:

- A tsunami generated by a magnitude 8.0 earthquake located on the Western Muertos Trough.
- A tsunami generated by a magnitude 8.3 earthquake located along the North Panama Deformed Belt.

For CARIBE WAVE 22, each Member State needs to select one scenario and complete the online survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CW22_ScenarioSelection by 25 February 2022. In light of current implications due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is up to every country to decide at what scale the exercise will be carried out.

The objectives of this exercise are to: (i) evaluate communications between Regional Tsunami Service Provider and Members States/Territories; and (ii) evaluate the tsunami procedures and

Chairperson

Mr Ariel Hernan TROISI
Technical Secretary
Navy Hydrographic Service
Av. Montes de Oca 2124
C1270ABV Buenos Aires
ARGENTINA

Executive Secretary

Dr Vladimir RYABININ
Intergovernmental Oceanographic
Commission — UNESCO
7 Place de Fontenoy
75352 Paris Cedex 07 SP
FRANCE

Vice-Chairpersons

Dr Marie-Alexandrine SICRE
Directrice de Recherche
Centre national de la recherche scientifique
(CNRS)
3 rue Michel Ange
75016 Paris
FRANCE

Dr Alexander FROLOV
Assistant to the President
National Research Center “Kurchatov Institute”
Academika Kurchatova pl., 1
123182 Moscow
RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Mr Frederico Antonio SARAIVA NOGUEIRA
Navy Captain (Ret) Directorate
of Hydrography and Navigation
Rua Barao de Jaceguai S/N
24048-900 Niterói
BRAZIL

Dr Srinivasa Kumar TUMMALA
Director
Indian National Centre for Ocean
Information Services (INCOIS)
Pragathi Nagar (BO), Nizampet (SO)
Hyderabad 500090
INDIA

Dr Karim HILMI
Head of Oceanography Department
Institut National de Recherche
Halieutique (INRH)
02, Boulevard Sidi Abderrahmane
Ain Diab
20180 Casablanca
MOROCCO

programmes within Members States/Territories. Regular exercising of response plans is critical to maintain readiness for an emergency. Exercise CARIBE WAVE 22 also contributes to the UN Ocean Decade Tsunami Programme goal of 100% of communities at risk from tsunamis are prepared and resilient to tsunamis (see IOC Decision [IOC/A-31/3.4.1](#): Warning Mitigation Systems for Ocean Hazards).

The US Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) will issue an initial dummy message on 10 March 2022 at 14:00 UTC and disseminate it through all standard Tsunami Warning Centre broadcast channels. This dummy message will be issued to test communications with Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFPs) and National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWC). The message will start the exercise. As of 14:07 UTC, the PTWC will send by email the simulated tsunami products to officially designated TWFPs and NTWCs according to the chosen scenario. Each TWFP/NTWC will decide if and how to disseminate the messages within their area of responsibility. In cases where a Member State would have not indicated its preferred scenario, PTWC will decide on one of the two scenarios and will start the exercise with all CARIBE-EWS Member States.

The ICG/CARIBE-EWS of UNESCO/IOC, the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Caribbean Regional Stakeholders (CEPREDENAC, CDEMA, and EMIZA) are providing the framework for this exercise. CARIBE Wave exercises are a means for emergency responders throughout the Caribbean and adjacent regions to test and update their tsunami response plans. The participant handbook with details of the exercise will be available online at <http://www.caribewave.info>. Additional information relevant to the exercise will also be posted on this link in due course.

For CARIBE WAVE 22, the ICG/CARIBE-EWS decided to continue to use TsunamiZone (<http://tsunamizone.org/caribbean>) for the registration of participants to the exercise. Participants will be able to sign up as of January 2022 and will receive a participation confirmation email. The information posted on this site will be publicly available. Emergency Management Organizations (EMOs) and exercise coordinators are encouraged to promote registration on this site. For CARIBE WAVE 21, over 300 000 participants registered through [TsunamiZone](#).

Online orientation seminars for participants in English, Spanish and French are scheduled on 18–20 January and 15–17 February 2022. The fast registration links to the seminars are available at <https://www.weather.gov/ctwp/caribewave22>.

As an additional planning tool, the International Tsunami Information Centre (ITIC) provides videos on the PTWC Enhanced Products and Staging for the Caribbean and Pacific in English, Spanish and French at <https://vimeo.com/showcase/8956022> (please request password to christa.vonh@noaa.gov).

After the exercise, each ICG/CARIBE-EWS Member State and Territory are requested to provide feedback on the exercise by completing the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CaribeWave22> (not yet active at the date of this letter). The deadline for completing the post-exercise evaluation is 31 March 2022.

For further information on the exercise, please contact Dr Elizabeth A Vanacore, Chair of the Task Team CARIBE WAVE 2 (elizabeth.vanacore@upr.edu), Ms Alison Brome, Caribbean Tsunami Information Center (CTIC) (email: a.brome@unesco.org), Ms Christa G. von Hillebrandt-Andrade, Deputy Director Caribbean Office of the International Tsunami Information Center (christa.vonh@noaa.gov), and/or the Technical Secretary ICG/CARIBE-EWS, Mr Bernardo Aliaga (b.aliaga@unesco.org). You are also encouraged to disseminate copies of this letter to appropriate organizations and authorities within your country.

With the assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Vladimir Ryabinin
Executive Secretary