



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

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**IOC Circular Letter No 2886**

(Available in English only)

IOC/VR/BA/ah

21 April 2022

To : Registered SCSTAC focal points and Tsunami Warning Focal Points of the following countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China (People's Republic of), Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam

Cc. : Corresponding Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC  
Corresponding Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO and  
National Commissions for UNESCO  
Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center  
Director, International Tsunami Information Center  
IOC Tsunami Unit

**Subject: Notification and instructions regarding the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC) Communications Test for the Registered SCSTAC Focal Points on 21 May 2022 at 0600 UTC**

By this letter, I would like to notify the recipients of this Circular Letter that the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC) will conduct a communications test on **21 May 2022 at 0600 UTC** to verify that the communication channels between the Center and the recipient organizations of its tsunami advisories in the above-mentioned countries and territories of the South China Sea region operate properly.

The concerned Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFPs) should expect to receive the test message within a few minutes of issuance through all their designated communication methods. These may include:

1. Global Telecommunication System (GTS) using the World Meteorological Organization product header WESS31 BABJ, the same product header used by SCSTAC to issue an advisory,
2. E-mail – sent by [tsu@nmefc.cn](mailto:tsu@nmefc.cn), and
3. Telefax – sent by SCSTAC.

The concerned national Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) should verify that the test message is received by all of their designated communication methods. TWFPs are requested to complete and return the acknowledgement form attached hereafter by Telefax to +86 10 6217 3638 and/or by e-mail to [tsu@nmefc.cn](mailto:tsu@nmefc.cn). Prompt responses (preferably by 0700 UTC on 21 May 2022) are highly desirable. The results of this communication test will be processed by SCSTAC.

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Please kindly note that the communications test will be postponed in a case actual tsunami advisories are taking place in the South China Sea region or if a serious event (including non-tsunamigenic) is occurring in/or around the Pacific Ocean, which requires the full involvement of the China National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center (NMEFC) operators. In that case, the test will be carried out on 23 May 2022 at 0600 UTC.

Ensuring the operational functionality of all communication methods is critical to the effectiveness of the Pacific Tsunami Warning System (PTWS) in the South China Sea region. I therefore count on your full participation in the test.

With assurances of my highest consideration, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

*[signed]*

Vladimir Ryabinin  
Executive Secretary

Enclosures (2):

Sample of a test message sent by the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center – Appendix 1

Acknowledgement form for receipt of the SCSTAC test message – Appendix 2

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**TEST for South China Sea Tsunami Advisory (SCSTA)**

Date: 21 MAY 2022

From: South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC)

To : Tsunami Focal Point for SCSTAC, PTWC, JMA (NWPTAC)

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**WESS31 BABJ 210600**

SCSTAC COMMUNICATIONS TEST

ISSUED BY SOUTH CHINA SEA TSUNAMI ADVISORY CENTER (SCSTAC)

ISSUED AT 0600Z 21 MAY 2022

THIS IS A TEST BULLETIN

THIS IS A TEST TO VERIFY COMMUNICATION LINKS AND DETERMINE

TRANSMISSION TIMES INVOLVED IN THE DISSEMINATION OF OPERATIONAL

TSUNAMI ADVICE PRODUCTS FROM THE SOUTH CHINA SEA TSUNAMI ADVISORY

CENTER TO DESIGNATED 24-HOUR TSUNAMI WARNING FOCAL POINTS OF THE SOUTH

CHINA SEA TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM.

RECIPIENTS ARE REQUESTED TO PLEASE RESPOND BACK TO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

TSUNAMI ADVISORY CENTER.

PLEASE RESPOND VIA ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MEANS

\*TEL:+86-10-62104561

\*EMAIL:TSU@NMEFC.CN

\*FAX:+86-10-62173638

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS COMMUNICATION TEST

NNNN

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To: South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC)  
National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center (NMEFC)

Facsimile: +86 10 6217 3638

E-mail: tsu@nmefc.cn

Acknowledgement form for receipt of the SCSTA test message

1. Name of country: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Recipient organization: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Responsible office: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name of officer in charge: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Reception status of the SCSTAC test message

(1) GTS

- ☐ Received (Time of receipt (UTC): h \_\_\_\_\_ m)
- ☐ Failed to receive
- ☐ Not registered

(2) E-mail

Registered address 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Received (Time of receipt (UTC): \_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_ m)  
☐ Failed to receive  
☐ Not registered

Registered address 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Received (Time of receipt (UTC): \_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_ m)  
☐ Failed to receive  
☐ Not registered

Registered address 3: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Received (Time of receipt (UTC): \_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_ m)  
☐ Failed to receive  
☐ Not registered

(3) Facsimile

Registered number 1: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Received (Time of receipt (UTC): \_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_ m)  
☐ Failed to receive  
☐ Not registered

Registered number 2: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Received (Time of receipt (UTC): \_\_\_\_\_ h \_\_\_\_\_ m)  
☐ Failed to receive  
☐ Not registered