



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 2962

(Available in English only)

IOC/VR/BA/ah

22 September 2023

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

C.c. : Corresponding Official National Coordinating Bodies for liaison with the IOC
Corresponding Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO and
National Commissions for UNESCO
Chair, ICG/PTWS
Director, Pacific Tsunami Warning Center
Director, International Tsunami Information Center
IOC Tsunami Resilience Section

Subject: Notification and Instructions regarding the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC) Communications Test for the Registered SCSTAC Focal Points, 20 October 2023 at 0800 UTC

By this letter, I would like to inform you that the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC) will conduct a communications test on **20 October 2023 at 0800 UTC**. The purpose is to verify that the communication channels between the Centre and the recipient organizations of its tsunami advisories are operating 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
3. Telefax – sent by SCSTAC.

The concerned national Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) should verify that the test message is received by all 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. Prompt responses (preferably by 0900 UTC on 20 October 2023) are highly desirable. The results of this communication test will be processed by SCSTAC.

Chairperson

Dr Yutaka MICHIDA
Professor
Atmosphere and Ocean Research
Institute, The University of Tokyo
Kashiwanoha 5-1-5
2778564 Kashiwa
JAPAN

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 Nikolay VALCHEV
Director
Institute of Oceanology
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
40 Parvi May Str.
9000 Varna
BULGARIA

Mr Juan Camilo FORERO HAUZEUR
Executive Secretary
Colombian Ocean Commission (COO)
Avenida Ciudad de Cali No. 51 – 66
Edificio WBC, Oficina 306
111071 Bogotá, D.C.
COLOMBIA

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

Prof. Amr Zakaria HAMOUDA
President
National Institute of
Oceanography and Fisheries
(NIOF)
Qaitbay, Al-Anfushi
Alexandria
EGYPT

Please note that the communication test will be postponed in a case if actual tsunami advisories are issued in the South China Sea region or if a severe event (also non-tsunamigenic one) occurs in or near the Pacific Ocean, which would require the service of the China National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center (NMEFC) operators. In the event, the test will be conducted on 23 October 2023 at 0800 UTC.

Ensuring the operational functionality of all communication methods is critical to the effectiveness of the Pacific Tsunami Warning & Mitigation System (PTWS) in the South China Sea region. We 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): Appendix 1/ Sample of a test message sent by the South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center

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

TEST for South China Sea Tsunami Advisory (SCSTA)

Date: 20 OCT 2023

From: South China Sea Tsunami Advisory Center (SCSTAC)

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

WESS31 BABJ 20 0800

SCSTAC COMMUNICATIONS TEST

ISSUED BY SOUTH CHINA SEA TSUNAMI ADVISORY CENTER (SCSTAC)

ISSUED AT 0800Z 20 OCT 2023

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 SCSTA 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