

Recommendation ICG/PTWS-XXI.4

**WORKING GROUP ON THE CENTRAL AMERICA PACIFIC COAST
TSUNAMI WARNING SYSTEM**

The Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System,

Recognizing that Central America has a significant threat from both local and distant tsunamis,

Noting that the six countries of Central America and the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC) during a meeting held in Managua, Nicaragua on 3 September 2003 decided to start the process for a Regional Tsunami Warning System, and to request IOC/ITSU assistance in developing it,

Remembering that this International Coordination Group in its session XIX decided to assist the Central American countries in this process and established a Working Group on this behalf composed of representatives from Nicaragua, Chile, France, Observer from El Salvador, the Directors of ITIC and PTWC and chaired by the representative from Nicaragua,

Recognizing that a strategy for the Regional Tsunami Warning System was adopted by the Central American countries in a meeting from April 25–27, in Managua, with the objective to create National Warning Systems in each of the countries, which shall cooperate closely and shall form finally a Regional Warning System,

Recognizing that Nicaragua and El Salvador already initiated to operate National Tsunami Warning Systems,

Acknowledging that there have made further improvements in Central America regarding the capabilities applicable to the requirements of a regional tsunami warning system as on line seismic data exchange and training of personnel,

Further acknowledging that there are mutual benefits to the Central America region and the Pacific region that would be realized through the establishment of this warning system,

Decides to continue with the work of the Intersessional Working Group on the Central America Tsunami Warning System with the following terms of reference:

- 1 To assist the Central American countries in the improvement, development or implementation of their National Tsunami Warning and Mitigation Systems;
- 2 To recommend to the Executive Secretary of CEPREDENAC the implementation of a Steering Committee for the Regional Tsunami Warning System and Mitigation Systems;
- 3 To facilitate Tsunami Hazard and Risk studies in the Central American Region;
- 4 To assist the countries which are not yet members of PTWS in their attempts to integrate IOC/PTWS;

Recommends that the Group will be composed of representatives from Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Chile, France, the Directors of ITIC and PTWC and Chaired by the representative from Nicaragua;

Acknowledges that ICG/PTWS is the Coordinating Body for the Tsunami Warning System in the Pacific and **encourages** non-PTWS Member States to contact the IOC Secretariat to request membership of the ICG/PTWS.

Financial implications: US\$ 2,000

Recommendation ICG/PTWS-XXI.5

**WORKING GROUP ON TSUNAMI WARNING AND MITIGATION
IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC OCEAN**

The Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System in the Pacific,

Recognizing that the Southwest Pacific Ocean has a significant threat from local, regional and distant tsunamis,

Further recognizing that local and regional tsunami alerts for some areas of the Southwest Pacific are not covered by the PTWC,

Further recognizing the strategic recommendations for addressing tsunami risks in the region agreed at the South Pacific Tsunami Awareness Workshop Forum Secretariat, Suva, Fiji, 1–3 July 2004,

Noting the interest of Member States in the Southwest Pacific region to enhance their tsunami warning and mitigation services,

Acknowledging that a number of countries in the region are developing National Tsunami Warning Systems with already existing and planned upgrades to seismic and sea-level networks and that the PTWC provides distant tsunami warnings for the Southwest Pacific,

Acknowledging also that there may be mutual benefits to these regions and to the Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System in the Pacific from the establishment of this working group,

Further acknowledging donor support, but encourages continued effort in donor harmonization,

Decides to establish an intersessional Working Group on the Southwest Pacific Ocean with the following Terms of Reference:

1. to evaluate capabilities of countries in these regions for providing end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation services;
2. to ascertain requirements from countries in the Southwest Pacific Ocean for the tsunami warning and mitigation services;