



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 - 1, rue Miollis - 75732 Paris cedex 15, France  
<http://ioc-unesco.org> - fax: +33 (0)1 45 68 58 12 - contact phone: +33 (0)1 45 68 39 83/84  
E-mail: [w.watson-wright@unesco.org](mailto:w.watson-wright@unesco.org)

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4 October 2013

**To:** ICG/CARIBE-EWS Tsunami National Contacts (TNC) and Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) for Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Haiti, St Kitts and Nevis, Sint Maarten, UK (Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Turk and Caicos), USA

**cc:** Official National Coordinating Body for liaison with the IOC and Permanent Delegates/Observer Missions to UNESCO for Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Haiti, St Kitts and Nevis, Sint Maarten, UK (Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Turk and Caicos), USA  
UNESCO Offices in La Habana and Kingston  
Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC)  
International Tsunami Information Center (ITIC)  
Permanent Observers to ICG/CARIBE-EWS  
IOC Officers and ICG/CARIBE-EWS Officers

**Subject:** **Invitation to Regional Training on “Strengthening Standard Operating Procedures for Tsunami Warning and Emergency Response and the Development of the ICG/CARIBE-EWS PTWC New Enhanced Tsunami Products”, La Romana, Dominican Republic, 4-8 November 2013**

The Caribbean and its adjacent seas, including the Atlantic, have been the source region for 11 % of the world's fatal tsunamis over history, with almost 100 tsunamis observed that have impacted 23 countries of this region. Caribbean nations must be prepared to face the dangers of tsunami from distant, regional and local sources. While many Caribbean Member countries continue to depend primarily on the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) for the warning advice to their National Tsunami Warning Centres, the reality of the dangers posed by local and regional sources does require Member States to: (i) identify and assess their tsunami risk; (ii) improve and expand the capabilities of their National Tsunami Warning Centres (NTWC)/Tsunami Warning Focal Points (TWFP) and Disaster Management Offices (NDMO) in order to respond to a tsunami in a timely and responsible manner to save lives; and (iii) engage in regional collaboration to build a strong warning and mitigation system.

In this context, we are pleased to invite Caribbean Island States in the To line to nominate up to two candidates to participate in a Regional Tsunami Training Workshop on Strengthening

**Chairperson**

Dr Sang-Kyung BYUN  
Principal Research Scientist  
Climate Change & Coastal Disaster  
Research Dept.  
Korea Institute of Ocean Science  
and Technology (KIOST)  
787 Haeanlo  
Ansan 426-744  
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

**Executive Secretary**

Dr Wendy WATSON-WRIGHT  
Intergovernmental Oceanographic  
Commission — UNESCO  
1, rue Miollis  
75732 Paris Cedex 15,  
FRANCE

**Vice-Chairpersons**

Prof. Peter M. HAUGAN  
Director, Geophysical Institute  
University of Bergen  
Allegaten 70  
5007 Bergen  
NORWAY

Dr Atanas PALAZOV  
Director, Institute of Oceanology – Varna  
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences  
P.O. Box 152  
Varna 9000  
BULGARIA

Capt. Frederico Antonio SARAIVA  
NOGUEIRA  
Directorate of Hydrography  
and Navigation  
Rue Barão de Jacaguai, s/nº  
Ponta da Armação  
Niterói, Rio de Janeiro  
CEP 24.048-900  
BRAZIL

Prof. Yutaka MICHIDA  
University of Tokyo  
Member of National Committee for IOC  
Kashinoha 5-1-5  
Kashiwa 277-8564  
Chiba  
JAPAN

Prof. Adoté Blim BLIVI  
Chef de Recherche  
Head of CGILE  
Ministère de l'Enseignement  
Supérieur et de la Recherche  
University of Lomé,  
B.P. 1515  
Lomé 228  
TOGO

Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Tsunami Warning and Emergency Response and the Development of the ICG/CARIBE-EWS PTWC New Enhanced Products to be held at the La Romana Dreams Hotel in Bayahibe, Dominican Republic, 4-8 November 2013. It is recommended that one candidate should be from the National Tsunami Warning Center that serves as the Tsunami Warning Focal Point agency (NTWC, TWFP), and one from the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO). Attached is a provisional agenda for this training that will be conducted in English.

The training is being organized by the International Tsunami Information Center (Hawaii), in collaboration with the IOC ICG/CARIBE-EWS Secretariat, the Caribbean Tsunami Information Center (CTIC) and the Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program (CTWP), with the support of UNESCO and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office for Barbados and the OECS through the Enhancing Resilience to Reduce Vulnerability in the Caribbean (ERC) Project.

The organizers have some funding available for supporting attendance at the training, but also welcome full or partial self-funding by countries. The CTIC has kindly agreed to support in full two participants from each country of the northeastern Caribbean Region. Selected candidates receiving support from CTIC will be provided with round trip air ticket through the most economical route, and/or lodging and meals at the workshop hotel under the system all-inclusive. The selection criteria of the candidates who receive funding are: a) members of the country's NTWC or, NDMO; and b) responsible for and involved in tsunami warning and emergency response operations, and/or responsible for their country's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Nominations should be endorsed by and submitted through the country's Tsunami National Contact (TNC). It is desirable that where possible the NTWC and NDMO of each country attend together, and ideally, successful applicants will have participated in Exercise Caribe Wave 2013 which introduced the PTWC Enhanced Products.

On Day 1, each country is expected to provide a 10-minute clear summary of the current state of their tsunami warning, alert and response systems, including an outline of the Standard Operating Procedures. More information and documents will be made available through the website <http://www.ioc-tsunami.org/ITP-CAR>.

Please forward the attached form duly completed by each nominee and a CV, by email to Alison Brome ([a.brome@unesco.org](mailto:a.brome@unesco.org)), CTIC Director (a.i.), with copy to Laura Kong ([laura.kong@noaa.gov](mailto:laura.kong@noaa.gov)), Director, International Tsunami Information Center, by Monday 14 October 2013. Selected candidates will be notified by 18 October 2013.

Yours sincerely,

*[signed]*

Wendy Watson-Wright  
Executive Secretary, IOC  
Assistant Director-General, UNESCO

**Enclosures:**  
Provisional Agenda  
Application Form