

Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (PTWS) Steering Committee Meeting

16 – 18 June 2020

Online meeting, 23:00-24:00 UTC

Records available at:

[Records 16 June 2020](#)

[Records 17 June 2020](#)

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DAY 1: TUESDAY 16 JUNE, 23:00-24:00M UTC

3.5. Task Team for PacWave20 (Laura Kong)

The Chair of the Task Team led the discussion to decide what form, if any, that Exercise Pacific Wave 2020 in consideration of the COVID-19 situation since December / January 2020.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which began in December and likely will continue for the remainder of 2020, Member States have generally been unable to dedicate sufficient planning and preparation resources to plan or conduct of Exercise Pacific Wave 2020 (PacWave20) in the manner outlined in Recommendation PTWS-XXVII.1.

PacWave20 was planned for Sep-Nov 2020, as a series of regional exercises and including activities over and above a table top exercise. The Objectives were to:

1. Test the PTWS TSP-to-TWFP/NTWC communications;
2. Test country communications and cooperation, and readiness;
3. Test regional communication and cooperation;
4. Support development of CATAC

The Task Team considered different options for continuing PacWave20 but with a narrower scope. Options considered were to:

1. Conduct only the TSP-to-TWFP communications test on November 5, 2020;
2. Conduct TSP-to-TWFP, and national-local communication tests;
3. Conduct TSP-to-TWFP, and regional communication TWFP-to-TWFP tests;
4. Conduct TSP-to-TWFP, regional TWFP-to-TWFP and national-local communication tests;
5. Conduct some, or all of the above, and table top exercise;
6. Conduct some, or all of the above, in non-ideal conditions (night time, weekend, non-full staffing, no TSP info);
7. Conduct some, or all of the above, and 'readiness' activity (to community level, evacuation, awareness campaign, etc.)
8. Delay PacWave until 2021, and follow the same ToR;

The WG SEP reported that it is planning a regional exercise following the PacWave20 recommendation.

The CATAC reported that it is still possible to conduct a regional tabletop exercise with its customers, currently planned for September 2020.

The PMEL, as its primary developer, asked whether TsuCAT (Tsunami Coastal Assessment Tool) is available for Member States to use for PacWave20. The ITIC Director responded that it was planned for wide rollout since it contains 5000 scenarios and the PTWC text and enhanced products messages, and therefore enables regions and countries to conduct their own exercises independent of the PTWC. V4.0 was distributed at the IG/PTWS-XXVIII, and the current version is v4.1. The ITIC will reach out to Member States to offer its availability.

More information on PacWave20 can be found at www.pacwave.info

The PTWS SC reiterated the difficulty of conducting PacWave20 as planned given the current COVID-19 global situation, **and recommended** that PacWave20 only tests Objectives 1 and 4. Accordingly, the PacWave20 will consist of :

1. TSP-to-TWFP communication test on November 5, 2020 (Option 1)
2. CATAC regional exercise.

Other activities are encouraged but are at the discretion of the country.

3.6. Regional Working Group South China Sea (S.T. Chan)