

## NAVTEX Panel Report

Submitted by Chair, IMO International NAVTEX Coordinating Panel

### SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This report provides a summary of the current issues being addressed by the IMO International NAVTEX Coordinating Panel and its actions and activities since WWNWS Meeting 9.

Action to be taken: 5

Related documents: None

### INTRODUCTION

- 1 This report covers the period since WWNWS9 and outlines:
  - .1 changes to the NAVTEX infrastructure during the period, and notification of planned changes;
  - .2 current operational issues associated with the NAVTEX service world-wide, and
  - .3 other wider issues associated with the promulgation of Maritime Safety Information (MSI) with which members of the Panel are involved.

### NAVTEX INFRASTRUCTURE

2 Activities and developments during the period since the last report to WWNWS-SC are detailed below in respect to specific NAVAREAs (there has been no activity to report for NAVAREAS V, X, XI, XIII, XIV, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX and XXI):

#### .1 NAVAREA I.

- .1 The B1 character for Tallinn 518 kHz NAVTEX station in **Estonia** was changed from [U] to [F] on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. This was required to avoid reported interference during darkness hours from the Mondolfo NAVTEX station in Italy.

#### .2 NAVAREA II.

- .1 The Panel has been advised that transmissions from CENCOMAR AZORES (**Portugal**) NAVTEX station on 518 kHz were being received in the Baltic sea area during hours of darkness. The Portuguese authorities have advised that the transmitted power from

this station has now been reduced during this period and no further reports of interference have been received.

.3 **NAVAREA III.**

- .1 Discussions about transferring MSI between **Ukraine** and **Russian Federation** are ongoing.

.4 **NAVAREA IV.**

- .1 **Canada** has advised that service from the Iqualit NAVTEX station was restored in June 2018.

.5 **NAVAREA VI.**

- .1 **Uruguay** has advised that their NAVTEX station at La Paloma is expected to be restored by 2020 as part of a new GMDSS installation.

.6 **NAVAREA VII.**

- .1 The **South Africa** NAVTEX station at Cape Columbine was provisionally scheduled to commence test transmissions by the end of July 2018.
- .2 The restoration of **Namibia** NAVTEX station at Walvis Bay has been delayed slightly and completion of the project is planned for early 2019.

.7 **NAVAREA VIII.**

- .1 **India** commenced transmissions from their International NAVTEX stations on 518 kHz at Balasore [**S**], Porto Novo [**O**], Keating Point [**V**], Vakalpudi [**Q**], Vengrula Point [**J**] and Veraval [**H**] on 518 kHz. Their stations at Chennai [**P**] and Mumbai [**G**] were withdrawn from service and the B1 characters revoked. Transmissions from the National NAVTEX stations on 490 kHz from the new locations have not yet commenced.

.8 **NAVAREA IX.**

- .1 The **Oman** NAVTEX upgrade remains stalled. The Oman authorities have contacted the NAVAREA IX Coordinator and the Iran National Coordinator to agree service areas.
- .2 The Panel is awaiting further developments regarding the planned installation of International NAVTEX stations on 518 kHz along the Red Sea coast of **Saudi Arabia**. However, the Panel continues to liaise with MSI providers in Egypt, Sudan and Eritrea to agree service areas and sharing of MSI.

.10 **NAVAREA XII.**

- .1 **Ecuador** has advised that Ayora NAVTEX station remains non-operational.

.11 **NAVAREA XV.**

- .1 Easter Island (**Chile**) NAVTEX station issue has once more been delayed for technical reasons and no date for restoration of service has been advised.

.12 **NAVAREA XVI.**

- .1 Mollendo NAVTEX station in **Peru** remains non-operational. Service has been restored to the stations at Paita and Callao.

### **CURRENT OPERATIONAL ISSUES**

#### **WIDER ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROMULGATION OF MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION**

3 The NAVTEX Panel continues to be active in several areas associated with improving standards and developing MSI services, including providing one instructor to the IHO Capacity Building MSI training course for the benefit of the North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission (NIOHC) and the Southern African and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC) held in Fish Hoek, South Africa (September 2017).

#### **NON-OPERATIONAL NAVTEX STATIONS**

4 The Panel requests that they be kept up to date with status reports of all NAVTEX stations which become non-operational (temporary or permanent) together with anticipated return to service dates if known.

#### **ACTION REQUESTED OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

5 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the information provided.