

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 8.

Action to be taken: 5

Related documents: None

INTRODUCTION

- 1 This report covers the period since WWNWS8 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 I, V, X, XIII, XIV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX and XXI):

- .1 **NAVAREA II.**
 - .1 The **Cape Verde** authorities have advised that their NAVTEX equipment is awaiting installation, and the Panel will be informed of further developments.
 - .2 **Nigeria** have advised that installation of their new NAVTEX stations at Lagos and Oron are still ongoing. The Panel awaits progress reports.

.2 **NAVAREA III.**

- .1 **Malta** continues to receive and transmit Kelibia NAVTEX messages from **Tunisia** until Kelibia NAVTEX station returns to full operational status.
- .2 **Croatia** are planning the installation of a National NAVTEX station on 490 kHz from their existing transmitter at Split.
- .3 The **Russian Federation** have not yet supplied The Panel with an appropriate e-mail address to receive Radio Navigational Warning messages for transmission from Novorossiysk, as requested during NCSR4 (March 2017).

.3 **NAVAREA IV.**

- .1 **Honduras** are currently investigating a suitable location for a possible NAVTEX station on the Caribbean Coast. The Panel remains available to assist when required.
- .2 **Colombia** continues to transmit from their NAVTEX station at Santa Marta on 490 kHz using B1 character [**K**]. Transmissions on 518 kHz have been delayed for technical reasons.

.4 **NAVAREA VI.**

- .1 **Uruguay** has advised that their NAVTEX station at La Paloma is expected to be restored by December 2017.

.5 **NAVAREA VII.**

- .1 The **South Africa** NAVTEX station at Cape Columbine is scheduled for completion in October 2017, with transmissions planned to commence in early 2018.
- .2 The restoration of **Namibia** NAVTEX station at Walvis Bay has been delayed slightly and completion of the project is planned for 2018.

.6 **NAVAREA VIII.**

- .1 **India** continues to conduct NAVTEX test transmissions from their new stations on 518 kHz. The existing stations at Chennai [**P**] and Mumbai [**B**] remain inoperative.
- .2 The **Seychelles** NAVTEX transmitter has been restored to operational status since November 2016.

7 **NAVAREA IX.**

- .1 The **Oman** NAVTEX upgrade remains stalled.
- .2 **Saudi Arabia** has contacted the Panel regarding the installation of International NAVTEX stations on 518 kHz at a number of locations in the Red Sea area. The Panel welcomes the proposed stations and is establishing contact with the authorities in Egypt, Sudan and Eritrea regarding sharing of MSI within this area.

.8 **NAVAREA XI.**

- .1 **China** has advised that their 4209.5 kHz NAVTEX stations at Guangzhou and Shanghai are still under trial, and the station at Tianjin is still in the planning stage.

.9 **NAVAREA XII.**

- .1 **Ecuador** has advised that a NAVTEX station at Manta is currently under consideration. Ayora NAVTEX station remains non-operational.
- .2 **Colombia** are in the process of identifying a new location on the Pacific Coast for their NAVTEX station, as a result of recent earthquake activity.
- .3 **Honduras** have been advised that their proposed NAVTEX station on the Pacific Coast (Gulf of Fonseca) would not be appropriate.

.10 **NAVAREA XV.**

- .1 Easter Island (**Chile**) NAVTEX station issue is expected to be resolved by late 2017.

CURRENT OPERATIONAL ISSUES

WIDER ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROMULGATION OF MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION

3 The NAVTEX Panel continues to be active in a number of areas associated with improving standards and developing MSI services, including providing one instructor to the IHO Capacity Building Programme MSI training course for the benefit of the MesoAmerican-Caribbean Sea Hydrographic Commission (MACHC) held in Barbados (June 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.