13th MEETING OF THE IHO INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE IHO-IRCC12

Virtual Meeting, 22 – 24 June 2021

Report of the Word-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub-Committee (WWNWS-SC)

 Submitted by:
 Chair

 Related Documents:
 Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information (IHO Publication S-53)

 Related Projects:
 S-124 development

Chair: Mr. Christopher Janus, USA

Vice-Chair: Mr. Trond Ski, Norway

Secretary: Mr. David Wyatt, IHO

Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cyprus,

Member States: Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, India, IR of Iran, Italy,

Japan, Malta, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Russian

Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, UK, USA

Members: IMO, WMO, IOC, IMSO

Expert: Contributors: Inmarsat, SONSAT, CIRM, Iridium

See Annex A for full details

1. Meetings Held During the Reporting Period

The WWNWS-SC monitors and guides the International Maritime Organization (IMO)/International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) World-Wide Navigational Warning Service (WWNWS, which includes NAVAREA and coastal warnings. The WWNWS-SC is responsible for studying and proposing new methods to enhance the provision of navigational warnings to mariners at sea, facilitating the implementation of the major changes in procedures for dissemination of navigational warnings and providing appropriate guidance to concerned IHO Member State Representatives to further the evolution of the WWNWS. The Sub-Committee also maintains a close liaison and cooperation with the WMO for its Worldwide Met-Ocean Information and Warning Service (WWMIWS).

Due to the ongoing global travel restrictions, the sub-committee held its 12th meeting from 1 to 3 September as a remote Video Tele Conference (VTC). The three sessions were chaired by the World-Wide Navigational Warning Service Sub-Committee (WWNWS-SC) Chair, Mr Peter Doherty. The sessions were attended by 63 participants from 21 IHO Member States, the Secretariat of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Secretariat of the International Mobile Satellite Organization (IMSO), the Chairs of IMO NAVTEX and International SafetyNET Coordinating Panels, Inmarsat, Iridium, Security of Navigation, Stabilisation, Advice and Training (inc AWNIS) (SONSAT) and the IHO Secretariat. The delegates included representatives of 15 NAVAREA Coordinators, one Sub-Area Coordinator and five National Coordinators. The IHO Secretariat was represented by Assistant Director David Wyatt.

The 19th meeting of the Document Review Working Group was held as a remote virtual meeting from 26 to 28 April 2021, the week immediately after the 8th session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications, and Search and Rescue (NCSR 8). The meeting was attended by 9

Member States (Australia, Canada, France, Greece, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, UK, USA), and the representatives from Secretariats of the IMO, WMO, Inmarsat and Iridium.

2. Work Programme

WWNWS Documentation

The work of the 18th meeting of the Document Review Working Group (DRWG) was reviewed, in particular the resultant outcomes of the discussions at the 7th session of the IMO Sub-Committee on Navigation, Communications and Search and Rescue (NCSR 7) and the recognition of the Iridium satellite system on all the MSI documentation.

It was agreed that the DRWG19 meeting, which will be held the week after the NCSR 8 at IMO Headquarters, will continue the review of the preliminary interim draft Iridium SafetyCast service Manual with the objective of preparing a final draft for consideration by the WWNWS-SC in 2020 and subsequent submission to NCSR 8 in 2021.

All draft documents under development by the Sub-Committee are available via the WWNWS page of the IHO web site. Member States are encouraged to review the documents and submit comments to the Chair (Mr Christopher Janus, e-mail: Christopher.G.Janus@nga.mil) and the IHO Secretariat (Assistant Director David Wyatt, e-mail: adso@iho.int). Any proposed changes or amendments and further work will be undertaken at the DRWG20, which will be held the week after the ninth session of the NCSR at IMO Headquarters in London in 2022. The drafting work will be finalised at WWNWS14 and then submitted to the IMO for approval.

GMDSS / MSI Briefing

The Sub-Committee received Maritime Safety Information (MSI) self-assessment reports from all 21 NAVAREAs, the Baltic Sea Sub-Area and a national report from China. The outcomes from the 18th meeting of the Document Review Working Group (28-30 January 2020) were discussed; in particular the proposed editorial amendments to the IMO NAVTEX Manual.

Briefings on the activities of the IMO NAVTEX and the IMO Enhanced Group Call (EGC) Coordinating panels were provided by their respective chairs as well as developments in the provision of mobile satellite GMDSS services from Inmarsat and Iridium. The meeting also received a progress report on the development of the S-124 Product Specification on Navigational Warnings from the Chair of the S-124 Project Team. He noted that significant progress had been achieved using remote meeting facilities in the period after the IMO NCSR 7 and IHO S-100WG meetings. The meeting also received an update on the activities of the EGC-API Correspondence Group (CG), which had met remotely on five occasions since the WWNWS11 meeting in Halifax, Canada, in August 2019. It was anticipated that the initial task set to the CG by the WWNWS-SC would be completed by April 2021.

MSI Capacity Building (CB) Training Course

The sessions considered progress reports on the delivery of MSI training courses, and discussed the processes for reporting the status of MSI provision at Regional Hydrographic Commission meetings and methods for identifying to the Capacity Building Sub-Committee the regions and coastal States most in need of training and assistance.

The following graphs detail WWNWS support and capacity.

Figure 1 details the percentage of National Coordinators, by NAVAREA, that provided MSI. The data is based on NAVAREA self-assessment reports submitted to WWNWS12. The graph can be used to measure the efficacy of the MSI Capacity Building course as well as where to focus capacity building training. Please note that NAVAREAS V, XIII, XV, XVI, XX, and XXI do not have any national coordinators; NAVAREAS VI, IX did not provide national coordinator support data to WWNWS12.

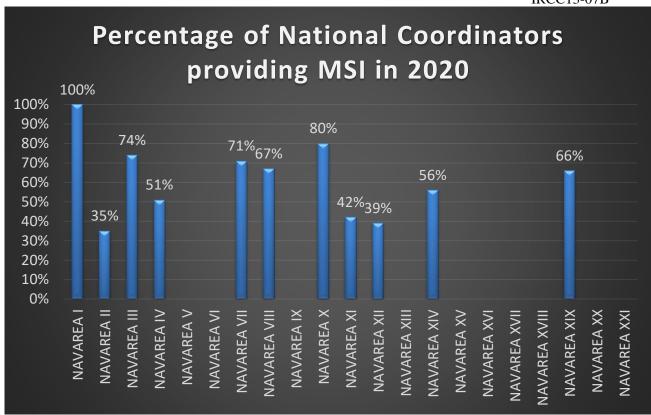


Figure 1 – National Coordinator MSI Support

Figure 2 details an increasing trend over the last five years with respect to the promulgation of navigational warnings by the WWNWS. From 2016 to 2020, there was 14% increase. It is unlikely that this trend will reverse itself. It is more likely that it will only increase with S-124 and additional recognized mobile satellite services to support. Please note that this graph does not include coastal warnings.

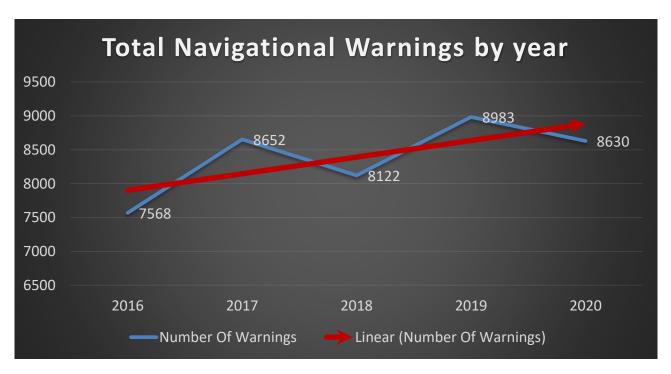


Figure 2 – Total Navigational Warnings by year promulgated by the WWNWS

Figures 3 through 5 detail navigational warnings promulgated by each NAVAREA for the last three years. It indicates which NAVAREAs provided the most MSI and, subsequently, bore an increased cost. Please note these graphs do not include coastal warnings.



Figure 3 – NAVAREA warnings promulgated by each NAVAREA for 2020



Figure 4 – NAVAREA warnings promulgated by each NAVAREA for 2019

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Figure 5 – NAVAREA warnings promulgated by each NAVAREA for 2018

Next Meeting

It was agreed that a cautious approach should be taken in planning the next meeting, therefore it was agreed that WWNWS13 should be held at the IHO in Monaco, 30 August to 3 September 2021, with the option for either a hybrid or wholly remote meeting to be considered as circumstances dictated. All NAVAREA Coordinators and National MSI Coordinators are encouraged to attend the meetings of the WWNWS-SC to broaden their experience and interact with each other.

Chair of WWNWS-SC

The Chair, Mr Peter Doherty, confirmed that he would be stepping down from the Chair position, a role he had undertaken for over 18 years. Due to the retirement of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, Mr Trond Ski, announced he would also step-down to avoid having to take on the Chair position, thus elections were required for both these offices. Mr Chris Janus (USA) was unanimously elected as Chair and Mr Trond Ski (Norway) was unanimously re-elected as Vice-Chair.

3. Progress on IRCC Action Items

Action 18: to contribute to update the IMO document "Initial Description of Maritime Services in the context of e-Navigation"

• It was agreed at WWNWS11 that MS5 - Maritime safety information service - would be added to the list of documents maintained by the WWNS-SC through its DRWG. Advice from the IMO Secretariat has indicated that maintenance work on all MS descriptions should wait until the IMO Member States had agreed a policy on this task.

4. Problems Encountered

As noted at IRCC11, a critical issue for the continued success of the MSI course was the lack of qualified trainers; The WWNWS-SC took several steps to address this concern. It reviewed all of the course material and made significant updates to incorporate new information. It produced detailed scripts for all 11 training modules, which will facilitate translation into other languages and, eventually, make it easier for other NAVAREA Coordinators to instruct their own course. Further, the WWNWS-SC added voice over tracks to each module to enable a basic level of remote learning. The next step is to offer an in-person (or virtual) train-the-trainer course in 2021 or 2022. The WWNWS-SC also developed a virtual instructor-led MSI course and NAVAREA IV/XII conducted a trial in March 2021.

- 5. Any Other Items of Note
- 6. Conclusions and Recommendations

WWNWS Operations:

MSI Capacity Building and MSI Training:

7. Justifications and Impacts

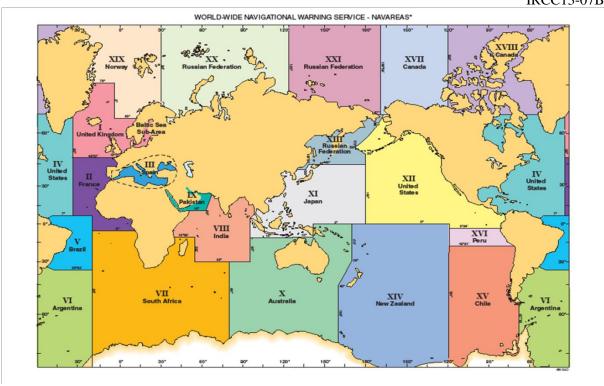
N/A

8. Action requested of the Committee

The Committee is invited to:

- a. take note of the information provided in this report on the outcomes of WWNWS12;
- b. **invite** relevant Member States to report to the IMO Secretariat and the Chair of the EGC Coordinating Panel on the progress and status of implementation of newly recognized mobile satellite services by MSI providers;
- c. **note** that MSI providers, should they implement Iridium SafetyCast services, are compelled to bear the burden of all additional costs, as a consequence of the approval by IMO Member States of the Iridium SafetyCast as an RMSS; and
- d. take any other action it considers appropriate.

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