



17th Conference of the EAthC /  
*17<sup>ème</sup> Conférence de la CHAtO*

Disaster Response Framework proposal and  
approval

**Agenda Item 03.5A**



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## DISASTER RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

International  
Hydrographic  
Organization

- The Disaster Response Framework was approved at EAtHC16
- Aim: preparing the EAtHC to respond to disasters in accordance with the IHO Resolution 1/2005 as amended
- The plan is executed in two steps:
  1. Preparation activities;
  2. Implementation activities following a disaster.



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## 1. Preparation activities:

- Preparation of the Contingency Framework by **EAtHC coastal States**
  - **Inform the EAtHC Chair on points of contact and the means of communication** (attention should be given to provide alternative means of communication in case the country has no telephonic and e-mail access):
    - Senior Point of Contact
    - Working Point of Contact
    - Communication means
  - Prepare and keep updated with the EAtHC Chair a **checklist for key infrastructure** in order to assess whether they are intact or need some urgent action. A generic template is provided in **Annex A**.
  - Prepare and keep updated a **National Communication Plan** identifying the stakeholders that will need to be contacted in order to obtain/to pass relevant information. Consider using alternative means of communication such as radio communications or Messenger App (e.g. Skype, Signal, Telegram, WhatsApp) if e-mail is not accessible.
  - Identify appropriate **contacts in the National Foreign Ministry** to facilitate requests for help via diplomatic channels.



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## 1. Preparation activities:

- **Preparation of a GIS layer to support coordination**
  - A GIS layer representing the hydrographic efforts to help the Chair in his/hers coordinating role.
- **Preparation of the Contingency Plan by the EAtHC Chair**
  - Compile the information provided in the previous slide and prepare a Communication Plan based on the information provided.
  - Prepare a list of (possibly) available assets that impacted coastal States can consider to request via diplomatic channels to the neighboring States. A generic template is provided in Annex B.



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## 2. A. Response implementation activities by a coastal State following a disaster:

- Conduct the initial damage assessment of the key infrastructure (Annex A).
- Assess the specific effects on shipping of the existence of obstacles and any changes to the seafloor that can hinder navigation, taking full account of the effects of drifting obstacles which may also hinder preliminary survey results.
- Prepare a priority plan for survey and charting to ensure that the passage of support and supplies through maritime channels and ports, and the marking of new dangers where necessary.
- Inform the EAtHC Chair of the result of the assessment performed in previous bullets.
- Prepare a list of necessary support (Annex A) to be communicated to the minister of foreign affairs via the chain of command in order to assure timely diplomatic clearance for other Members hydrographic assets as part disaster relief. Provide an information copy to the EAtHC Chair.
- The response to a disaster can be divided into activities for immediate response and a subsequent recovery response.



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## 2. B. Implementation activities by the EAtHC Chair:

- Establish communication with the coastal State in distress IOT obtain the initial assessment
- Take the necessary actions in coordination with the coastal State
- Prepare a situation awareness report to be disseminated to all the coastal States as established in the Communication Plan. Disseminate updates
- Communicate with the NAVAREA Coordinators to ensure awareness of the situation and that the necessary navigational information is disseminated
- Liaise with the IHO Secretariat
- Communicate with the appropriate Regional and International Organizations to share information and coordinate the efforts
- Decide whether an Extraordinary Conference of the EAtHC is needed, in order to discuss in detail the problems, evaluate the damage and respond to requests for support.



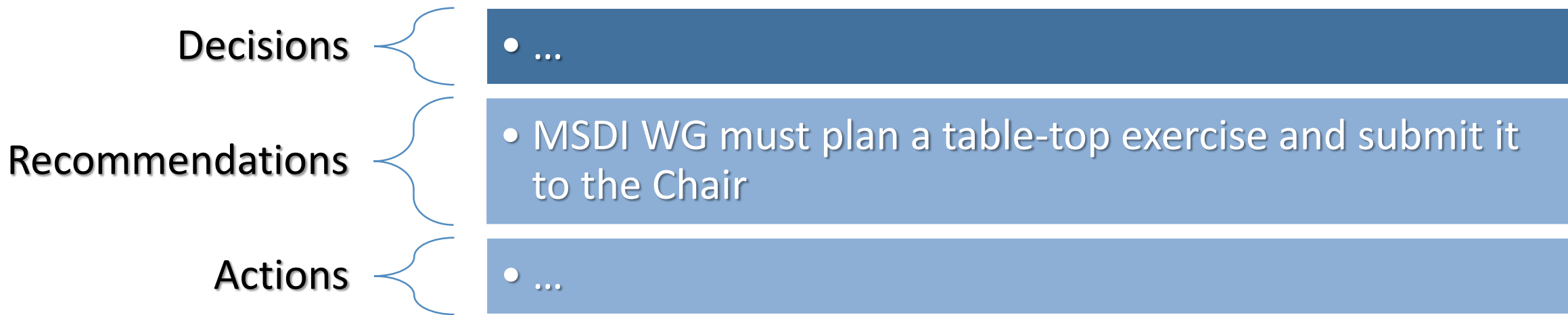


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International Hydrographic Organization

## • Proposal Actions and Decisions from EAtHC17



EAtHC16 - 16	Coastal States to inform the EAtHC Chair on points of contact and the means of communication, prepare and keep updated a National Communication Plan, identify appropriate contacts in the National Foreign Ministry IOT respond to Disaster Response Framework.	Coastal States
EAtHC16 - 17	Coastal States to prepare a list of (possibly) available assets that impacted coastal States can consider to request via diplomatic channels to the neighbouring States IOT respond to Disaster Response Framework.	Coastal States
EAtHC16 - 18	The Chair should ensure a permanent agenda item on RHC meetings to monitor the readiness of the Commission to respond to disasters, and conduct regular table-top exercises to evaluate the procedures.	Chair