

Actions and Decisions

21st meeting of the WWNWS-SC Document Review Working Group (DRWG21)
28 February – 2 March 2023
0900-1200 GMT, WebEx Virtual Meeting
22-24 May 2023
0900-1700, Hybrid Meeting

The following is a list of actions and decision agreed to at the 21st meeting of the WWNWS-SC Document Review Working Group (DRWG21)

DRWG 21 Actions

Action 1 – Publish the EGC API standard on the IHO WWNWS-SC webpage. (IHO Secretariat)

Action 2 -- Review the NAVAREA Coordinator Self-Assessment and annex, update/amend as necessary and report changes at the in-person DRWG 21 following NCSR 10. (WWNWS-SC Chair-Complete)

Decision 1 – Maintain a single list of all MSI definitions in IMO resolution MSC.468 (A.705) and refer to this annex in all subsequent MSI resolutions and circulars.

Action 3 – Draft a list of all MSI definitions and review each definition. (DRWG-Complete)

Decision 2 – Remove “Broadcast Methods” duplicate text from IMO Resolution MSC.469, MSC.470 and the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI manual due to duplicate text. Broadcast methods to reside in 468.

Action 4 – Decide if the second sentence in paragraph 3.1.6 from IMO Resolution MSC.470 can be deleted. If deleted, The remaining text would then match what is referenced in IMO Resolution MSC.468 and could be deleted entirely from MSC.470. (WMO)

Decision 3 – Retain the Maritime Safety Information service graphic (Figure 1) within IMO Resolution MSC.468. Delete the duplicate MSI service graphic in the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI manual, the International SafetyNET Services Manual, the Iridium SafetyCast Service Manual and a similar graphic in the IMO NAVTEX manual.

Decision 4 – Retain paragraph 4 and 4.1, “Shipboard Equipment” within IMO Resolution MSC.468. This information may then be removed from the MSI Manual. (DRWG)

Action 5 – Decide whether to add a reference (or footnote) to MSC.1/Cir1645- **Guidance for the Reception of Maritime Safety Information and Search and Rescue Related Information as Required in the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS)** in IMO Resolution MSC.468, paragraph 4.1. (DRWG – Complete; footnote added)

Decision 5 – The graphic “Geographic Areas for Coordinating and Promulgating NAVAREA/METAREA Warnings” will remain in IMO Resolutions MSC.469 and MSC.470, respectively. Remove those graphics from the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI Manual, the IMO NAVTEX Manual, the International SafetyNET Services Manual, and the Iridium SafetyCast Service Manual.

Action 6 – Harmonize paragraph 3.2.1 “Automated methods...” from IMO Resolution MSC.469 and paragraph 3.2.1 “Automated methods...” from IMO Resolution MSC.470. (DRWG)

Decision 6 – Move all references to “Scheduling...Automated Methods...” from IMO Resolution MSC.469 and MSC. 470 to the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI Manual. Delete paragraphs 3.2.2 “Schedule Changes” from both resolutions. IMO Resolution MSC.468 contains similar and sufficient guidance in paragraphs 6.4 and 6.5.

Action 7 – Consider adding a reference to the IMO’s Global Integrated Shipping Information System (GISIS) to IMO Resolution to IMO Resolution MSC.468, potentially in Section 1 “Introduction” or Section 6 “Coordination Procedures”. (DRWG – Complete; GISIS reference added to MSC.468 in Section 6)

Decision 7 – Remove all NAVAREA, Subarea, and National Coordinator “Resources and Responsibilities” from the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI manual. Retain references to “Resources and Responsibilities” in IMO Resolutions MSC.469 and MSC.470.

Action 8 – Consider removing duplicate “Responsibilities” from paragraph 12.2 of the IMO NAVTEX manual. May require harmonization of “responsibilities” to remove duplicate text. (IMO NAVTEX Coordinating Panel)

Decision 8 – Maintain paragraphs 4.2.1.1 and 4.2.1.2 in IMO resolution MSC.469. Remove paragraph 4.2.1.3 “...subjects suitable for broadcast warnings...” and retain “...subjects suitable for broadcast warnings...” only in the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI manual. Move paragraphs 4.1.2 through 4.1.4 to the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI manual. Only keep paragraph 4.1.1 in MSC.469.

Decision 9 – Retain paragraphs 5, 5.1 and 5.3 in IMO resolution MSC.469. Retain similar information in MSC.470. Delete paragraphs 5.2 “Numbering” and 5.4 “No warnings”. “Numbering” is already in the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO MSI manual, paragraph 5.1. Delete paragraph 5.2 “Language” from the MSI manual to avoid duplication. Note that “Language” text is different between MSC.469 and MSC.470.

Action 9 – Coordinate with the chair of the MSI and SAR related information Correspondence Group and SONSAT to draft an information paper for reference at NCSR 10, concerning the recommended revocation of IMO Resolution MSC.305 **Guidelines on Operational Procedures for the Promulgation of MSI Concerning Acts of Piracy and Piracy Counter-Measure Operations**. (WWNWS-SC Chair, NAVAREA X, SONSAT - Complete)

Action 10 – Determine if the IHO can host the Coastal State MSI C-55 Support Project or make the GIS files available for download. (WWNWS-SC Chair, IHO Secretariat – Complete; IHO can host)

Action 11 -- Provide the NAVAREA VI Coordinator with the latest, releasable S-124 documentation by 10 March 2023 to support the 17th meeting of the South West Atlantic Hydrographic Commission (SWAtHC), 14-15 March 2023. (WWNWS-SC Chair – Complete)

Action 12 – Provide the WWNWS Subcommittee with the latest, releasable S-124 documentation. (WWNWS-SC Chair/S-124 PT Chair)

Action 13 – Solicit for a presenter to discuss VHF Data Exchange (VDES), its progression and various applications for WWNWS 15. (WWNWS-SC Chair – Complete; the Coordinator for the IMO VHF Data Exchange Correspondence Group, Mr. Hideki Noguchi (Maritime Traffic Department, Japan Coast Guard) will provide a presentation)

Incomplete Actions from DRWG 19

Action 5 – IMO EGC Coordinating Panel to address the need and definition of “National EGC service”. (Chair EGC Panel)

Action 15 – Provide link and details to WMO secretariat for NAV VII moodle course to assist in development MET e-learning course. (NAVAREA VII)

Actions and Decisions from the 2nd Session of the 21st Meeting of the Document Review Working Group

Decision 10 – The following terms are not to be included in the consolidated MSI definition list contained in MSC.468. These terms and their associated definitions will be included as footnotes in the to-be-developed consolidated International EGC Services manual:

- Expiry
- Fleet Safety
- Gateway
- Inmarsat C
- Inmarsat FleetBroadband
- Inmarsat Mini C
- International RescueNET service
- Iridium Safety Gateway

- Land Earth Station
- Land Earth Station Operator
- Maritime Safety Terminal (MST)
- Network Coordination Station
- Satellite Network Operation Center (SNOC)
- Teleport
- Rescue coordination centre (RCC)
- Registered information provider
- *Satellite Ocean Region* – *Note: This term is referenced in Figure 1—MSI Service in MSC.468*
- Ship Earth Station (SES)

Action 14: Liaise with the ICAO/IMO JWG to ensure definition changes made at DRWG are properly aligned and in accordance with SAR guidance documents. (USA)

Action 15: Review all Iridium terms to ensure that all definitions/footnotes are properly capturing the current service. (Iridium)

Decision 11: The term “Main Shipping Lanes” will be excluded from the consolidated definition list contained in MSC.468. This term and its associated definition will be included as a footnote in the joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information. It is referenced in paragraphs 4.2.3.1, 4.2.3.2, 4.4.1, 7.1 and 7.2 of the MSI Manual.

Action 16: Research the origins of NAVAREA/METAREA boundaries with a view to create authoritative geospatial files to be contained within the GMDSS module of GISIS. (USA/UK/FRA)

Action 17: Liaise with the IMO secretariate to determine the relationship between a NAVTEX coordinator and national coordinator. This should include discussing the publication of a list of NAVTEX coordinators and contact details within the GDMSS module of GISIS (NAVTEX Chair)

Note from WNWNS-SC Chair: Possible recommendation for a new National Coordinator definition: “Means the national authority charged with collating and/or issuing coastal warnings within a national area of responsibility”

Decision 12: Discuss at WNWNS15 whether to retain the term “other urgent safety related information” in MSC.468.

Background: The impetus for the discussion was paragraph 5.3 in MSC.468 and that paragraph’s continued relevance. Further, the definition for “other urgent safety related information” seems to indicate that there is a third category of MSI, which there is not. It is also important to remember that “other urgent safety related information” is part of the MSI definition in SOLAS..

Action 18: Discuss the definitions for and relationships between Sub-area Coordinator, National Coordinator and NAVTEX Coordinator. The aim is to define the responsibilities for each term to clearly distinguish it from the others, and consider if any new terms are needed or any current terms should be deleted. This applies to both NAVAREAS and METAREAS, specifically with respect to the subdivisions within METAREA VIII and METAREA XI, which are not designated as Sub-areas. This could also be a future agenda item at a joint session between the IHO WNWNS-SC and the WMO AG-WWMIWS. (Sub-area 1b/NAVAREA I/Chair)

Action 19: Decide if MSC.469 should have a new section to define the navigational warning priority, which NAVAREAS assign to every EGC message. The NAVTEX Manual defines priorities in section 11.1. (DRWG)

Action 20: Review all MSI documentation and change the term “sea area” to “geographical area” to avoid confusion with sea areas A1, A2, A3 etc. (DRWG)

Action 21: Review the MSI service graphic, figure 1 in MSC.468, to determine if the following terms should be deleted: Satellite Ocean Region and Sub-area (under the EGC box in Broadcast Services), and SAR related information in Information Services. Editorially, add a yellow background to the appropriate boxes in Broadcast Services. (DRWG)

Background: Sub-areas are not defined as broadcast choices or geographical areas in Inmarsat SafetyNET or Iridium SafetyCast. With respect to Satellite Ocean Region, in the broadcast web

interface for both SafetyNET II and Iridium, the option to broadcast to a Satellite Ocean Region does not exist. Lastly, SAR Related information is not MSI.

Action 22: Liaise with the IMO secretariat to confirm that the assembly resolutions should be referenced throughout all MSI documentation vice the MSC resolutions. (DRWG)

Decision 13: Move para 4.1.5 from MSC.469 to the MSI manual, while removing “listed in para (eg. drifting ice, etc.), to a new para 4.2.4 in the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO manual on Maritime Safety Information. Add the same text from 4.1.5 to the Meteorological section of the Joint manual in consultation with the WWMIWS, reversing the terms METAREA and NAVAREA.

Action 23: Ensure the term “seafarer” is used in lieu of “mariner” throughout all MSI documentation (DRWG)

Decision 14: In MSC.469, reverse the placement for coordinator resources and responsibilities. Responsibilities should be first followed by resources. Add the following text prior to coordinator responsibilities:

“The NAVAREA coordinator should conform with the standards and practices established in the Joint IMO/IHO/WMO Manual on Maritime Safety Information, as revised (MSC.1/Circ.1310/Rev.2)

The NAVAREA coordinator has an important role in the promotion and overseeing of these standards in the promulgation of navigational warnings within its NAVAREA. The NAVAREA coordinator should strive to be the focal point of any information affecting safety of navigation in their NAVAREA as well as the point of contact for any administration within the NAVAREA on matters relating to navigational warnings.”

When listing responsibilities, the following text should not be repeated between NAVAREA, Sub-area and National Coordinator responsibilities, as much as practicable.

Add text: “NAVAREA, Subarea and National Coordinators share the following responsibilities:”

[Shared Responsibilities include:]

- Endeavor to be informed of all events...
- Asses all information upon receipt.....
- Select information for broadcast....
- Draft warnings in accordance....
- Direct and control the broadcast...
- Broadcast in force bulletins....
- Promulgate the cancellation of warnings....
- Act as the central point of contact....
- Prompt and oversee the use of international standards....
- Monitor the broadcasts....
- Maintain records of source.....
- Contribute to the development....
- Take into account the need for contingency planning...

Add the following text for NAVAREA Coordinator: “In addition to the common responsibilities, NAVAREA Coordinators have the following responsibilities:”

- Forward warning and relevant information..
- Ensure that information concerning all navigational warnings remain in force...
- When notified by the authority designated to act on reports of piracy...
- When notified by the appropriate authority, arrange for broadcast of health information...
- Coordinating preliminary discussion between neighboring member states
- Ensure that information concerning all navigational warning areas...

Add the following text for Sub-area Coordinator: “In addition to the shared responsibilities, Sub-area Coordinators have the following responsibilities:”

1. *Further discussion needed*
2. *Further discussion needed*
3. *Etc.*

Add the following text for National Coordinator: “In addition to the shared responsibilities, National Coordinators have the following responsibilities:”

1. *Further discussion needed*
2. *Further discussion needed*
3. *Etc*