



**12th Meeting**

**IHO World-Wide Navigation Warning Service Sub-Committee (WWNWS-SC)**

# **MSI Self Assessment – NAVAREA VII South Africa**

**Presented by Commander Christoff Theunissen**

**On behalf of the South African National Hydrographer Captain (SA Navy) Theo Stokes**

**NAVAREA VII Coordinator**

**IHO, Monaco 31<sup>st</sup> August – 4<sup>th</sup> September**



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- 1. To provide the WWNWS Sub-Committee a brief report on the following:**
  - Current status**
  - Highlighting significant events in the previous period**
  - Identified deliverables/outputs and capacity building**
  - Matters requiring WWNWS-SC action**
  
- 2. Full reports can be downloaded from the WWNWS-SC website**



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- 1. Background**
- 2. Current status**
- 3. Significant events**
- 4. Identified deliverables and outputs**
- 5. Capacity training**
- 6. Challenges and concerns**
- 7. Closing**



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## **BACKGROUND**

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- 1. The South African Navy Hydrographic Office, Coordinator of NAVAREA VII, in conjunction with the South African Meteorological Service, promulgates and disseminates shipping safety messages and weather information.**
- 2. Cape Town Radio is the GMDSS service provider and as such, transmits all MSI on behalf of the Coordinator.**



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# **CURRENT STATUS**

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## **SafetyNET**

- **MSI transmission is to the Indian Ocean (South Western Sector), and to the South Atlantic Ocean (South Easterly Sector)**
- **Meteorological Forecasts and NAVAREA VII Warnings: 0940 and 1940 UTC**
- **Land Earth Station 12 Burum; Service Provider: Stratos Mobile Networks**

## **NAVTEX**

- **NAVTEX coverage out to 200 nm from Namibian and South African Coasts**
- **Coast Radio Stations at**
- **Cape Town (C)**
- **Port Elizabeth (I)**
- **Durban (O)**
- **Cape Columbine (U)**



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# **CURRENT STATUS**

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## **NAVTEX (Contd.)**

- **Coast Radio Stations at Walvis Bay, Namibia (B) NAVTEX service operational as of May/June 2019**
- **Cape Town Radio includes Namibian Maritime Safety Information with its NAVTEX and SafetyNET MSI broadcasts**

## **Radio Telephony: South Africa**

- **Coastal Weather Bulletins and Navigational Warnings in force are combined and presented as one single-voice broadcast from Cape Town Radio at 1015 and 1815 UTC daily.**
- **Transmission is on 3 HF channels, 27 VHF traffic channels sited around the South African coast from Alexander Bay in the West to Kosi Bay in the East.**



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# **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS - COVID-19**

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## **COVID-19.**

- **Marked reduction of SafetyNET Messages / Coastal Navigational Warning Messages promulgated from the 2019/20 compared to 2018 and 2017.**
- **Reduction due to the global effects the COVID-19 pandemic has had on international shipping and maritime operations.**
- **The first half of the reporting period was on par with the previous year in terms of messages promulgated, but drastically reduced from February 2020 as the effects of COVID-19 took hold globally as well as locally.**
- **Message traffic is currently gradually increasing with global and local shipping and operations returning to normal.**
- **As far as capacity is concerned, both the SANHO, Telkom Radio Services and all associated MSI role-players in South Africa maintained operational functions throughout the South African COVID-19 Lockdown period.**



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## **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS - Iridium**

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### **Iridium.**

- **South Africa has participated in Iridium training in June 2020, and is still in the negotiations phase in terms signing an agreement between South Africa (represented by Telkom Radio Services) and Iridium.**
- **South Africa will comply with IMO and IHO directives regarding the implementation of Iridium as a GMDSS provider.**



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# **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS - Contingency Planning.**

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## **Contingency Planning.**

- **To ensure the continuous operational capability of MSI dissemination via SATCOM C SafetyNET, a contingency plan exists between South Africa, France and Australia.**
- **During WWNWS-SC 9th Meeting, South Africa, France and Australia agreed to test the contingency plan during 2018, and the joint exercise subsequently took place on 06 June 2018.**
- **In October 2019 the NAVAREA IX coordinator proposed a contingency exercise with NAVAREAVII, to take place in 2020.**
- **Planning for the exercise started in March 2020, the exercise itself scheduled for April 2020. However, the exercise was postponed until further notice.**

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# IDENTIFIED DELIVERABLES AND OUTPUTS

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## SafetyNET Messages Promulgated

2017 (420)				2018 (424)				2019 (376)			
E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text
144	276	Nil	Nil	154	270	Nil	Nil	173	203	Nil	Nil

## Coastal Navigational Warning Messages Promulgated

2017 (748)				2018 (754)				2019 (643)			
E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text
80	668	Nil	Nil	85	669	Nil	Nil	147	496	Nil	Nil



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# **CAPACITY BUILDING**

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## **Capacity Building.**

- **SAIHC have identified Capacity Building initiatives with MSI as a very important first phase component. The IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC) has established a capacity building fund (CBF) to facilitate seed-corn activities such as technical workshops, visits and training courses within the region.**
- **As part of the SAIHC16 meeting in September 2019 in Cape Town, MSI responsibilities and capacity building initiatives was on the agenda for discussion.**
- **The possible hosting of such workshops at the SANHO Training Facility, as well as an eLearning initiative has also taken shape, hosted by the SANHO, in order to facilitate capacity building initiatives into the future.**
- **The eLearning package, which will initially focus on MSI, has been developed and is in the final stages of verification before being rolled out to SAIHC members for comment and testing.**
- **This initiative was strongly supported by both Chairpersons of the WWNWS and SAIHC.**



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# **CHALLENGES AND CONCERNS**

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## **Angola:**

- **Very few MSI reports received from Angola, although there has been some progress compared to the previous reporting period.**
- **Oil and Gas Industry - regularly reports on the movements of rigs, as well as other industry related matters, promulgated in Riglist warning.**
- **The concern remains that Angola does not report regularly on MSI related matters in terms of events taking place on its coastal areas and ports.**

## **Mozambique Institute of Hydrography and Navigation:**

- **INAHINA promulgate monthly Notices to Mariners. Relevant MSI is passed to the NAVAREA VII Coordinator for transmission on SafetyNET.**
- **MSI reports mainly consist of Aids to Navigation being out of order, and the concern exists that no other information regarding maritime safety is generated and communicated to South Africa.**



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# **CHALLENGES AND CONCERNS**

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## **Namibia:**

- **NAVTEX service is operational as of May/June 2019.**
- **Inclusion of Namibian MSI with its NAVTEX and SafetyNET MSI broadcasts via Cape Town Radio still taking place.**
- **MSI reports mainly consist of gunnery exercise warnings, port construction operations and the status of Aids to Navigation.**



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# **CHALLENGES AND CONCERNS**

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## **Madagascar:**

- **Few MSI reports are received from Madagascar and mainly consist of the deployment of Aids to Navigation and related equipment being out of order.**

## **Iles Comores:**

- **There remains a near total lack of communication from Iles Comores.**

## **Lack of transmitting stations:**

- **The lack of NAVTEX Stations north of South African borders, namely Angola, Mozambique and Madagascar, is a persistent challenge.**
- **The installation of radio communication network equipment, and operator training, are the two most important components that need to be addressed.**



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## **Summary:**

- **The lack of NAVTEX Stations north of South African borders, namely Angola, Mozambique and Madagascar, is a persistent challenge. The installation of radio communication network equipment, and operator training, are the two most important components that need to be addressed. A dedicated Namibian NAVTEX service back has been brought into operation, and the station at Cape Columbine is now fully operational.**
- **The slow progress and the lack of adequate MSI implementation by States in the Great Rift Valley in the Southern African region remains a persistent matter of concern.**
- **The RHC (SAIHC) continuously strives to instil the awareness of maritime safety and encourages the implementation of MSI measures by member states.**
- **All navigational warnings in force at are published and available at [http://www.sanho.co.za/\\_navarea7\\_bulletins/bulletin.htm](http://www.sanho.co.za/_navarea7_bulletins/bulletin.htm). These include messages older than 42 days.**



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### **Recommendations:**

- **Angola, Mozambique and Madagascar and Iles Comores should be encouraged to communicate MSI matters to the NAVAREA VII Coordinator in order to disseminate these potentially hazardous matters to mariners operating in the relevant areas of interest.**

### **Action requested:**

- **Report to be noted by the WWNWS 12 Meeting.**



**Thank You**

IHO, Monaco 31<sup>st</sup> August – 4<sup>th</sup> September