

NAVTEX Panel Report

Submitted by Chair, IMO International NAVTEX Coordinating Panel

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: Executive Summary: This report provides a brief summary of the current issues being addressed by the IMO International NAVTEX Coordinating Panel and its actions since WWNWS Meeting 14

Action to be taken: 8

Related documents: None

INTRODUCTION

- 1 This report covers the period since WWNWS14 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, II, IV, V, VI, VII, IX, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX and XXI):

2.1 NAVAREA III

- .1 The continuing hostilities associated with the invasion of the Ukraine has exercised not only the NAVAREA III Coordinator but also IMO as a whole because of various issues including the Black Sea Grain Initiative Corridor associated with the export of grain from that region.
- .2 The NAVAREA III coordinator continues to engage with NAVTEX

station operators in the Eastern area of NAVAREA III in a continuing attempt to provide guidance on the correct content of NAVTEX messages. The NAVTEX Coordinating Panel remain grateful to the NAVAREA III coordinator for forbearance and patience shown whilst dealing with this delicate issue.

2.2 NAVAREA X

- .1 The NAVAREA X Coordinator has advised the Panel that Papua New Guinea has expressed an interest in the establishment of two new NAVTEX stations. As yet, no further details are known by the Panel, but the Panel remains ready to offer any assistance and support to achieve this exciting development.
- .2 The NAVTEX Coordination Panel are very grateful to the NAVAREA X Coordinator for bring this potential development to our attention.

2.3 NAVAREA XI

- .1 The NAVTEX Coordination Panel congratulates Thailand on the successful establishment of new operational International NAVTEX stations at DonSak [W] and Phetchaburi [F] together with National NAVTEX stations at DonSak [O] and Phetchaburi [S].
- .2 The NAVTEX Coordination Panel recognises the continued dedication displayed by the NAVAREA XI Coordinator and is very grateful for this.

CURRENT OPERATIONAL ISSUES

3 WIDER ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROMULGATION OF MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION:

- .1 The NAVTEX Panel is pleased to report that there are currently no exceptional circumstances affecting the promulgation of Maritime Safety Information through the NAVTEX system.

4. NON-OPERATIONAL NAVTEX STATIONS

- .1 The Panel again requests that authorities provide status reports of NAVTEX stations which become non-operational (temporary or permanent) together with anticipated return to service dates if known. Similarly, the Panel requests that station entries on GISIS are kept current.

5. OVER-RUNNING OF NAVTEX TRANSMISSIONS

- .1 There is anecdotal suggestion that NAVTEX transmissions may be over-running but no firm or substantiated examples. The Panel is mindful of the heavy workload experienced by NAVTEX stations and remain available to discuss protracted situations, to assist where we can.

6. NAVTEX STATION POSITION CHANGES

- .1 It has been noted that there have been several incidences where the position of a NAVTEX station as provided on GISIS has been minimally altered, often less than 100 metres. It is unclear why these positional amendments have been necessary, but the Panel would ask service providers to consider whether the service to the mariner is affected by these updates before effecting the amendment on GISIS.

7. NAVTEX COORDINATION PANEL COMPOSITION

- .1 The NAVTEX Coordination Panel Secretary, Matt Sheldon, has recently been appointed as Maritime Safety Information Policy Lead at the IMO appointed UK authority, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and is to be congratulated on this. It is hoped that he will be able to continue in his current role as Secretary to this Panel.

8. ACTION REQUESTED OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

- .1 The Sub-Committee is invited to note the information provided.