

NAVTEX Panel Report

Submitted by Chair, IMO NAVTEX Coordinating Panel

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: Executive Summary: This report provides a brief summary of the current issues being addressed by the IMO NAVTEX Coordinating Panel (referred to elsewhere in this report as the Panel) and its actions since WWNWS Meeting 15

Action to be taken: Paragraph 7

INTRODUCTION

1. This report covers the period since WWNWS15 and outlines:

- 1.1 changes to the NAVTEX infrastructure during the period, and notification of planned changes,
- 1.2 current operational issues associated with the NAVTEX service world-wide, and
- 1.3 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, X, XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX and XXI):

2.1 NAVAREA III

.1 The continuing conflict in Ukraine have continued to exercise the NAVAREA III Coordinator but as this protracted conflict continues, there appears to have been a decrease in military related activities in the region concerned.

.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 Panel remain grateful to the NAVAREA III coordinator for the forbearance and patience shown whilst dealing

with this delicate issue.

2.3 NAVAREA XI

.1 Conversations are ongoing between the Sultanate of Brunei authorities, the NAVAREA XI Coordinator and the Panel with a view to establishing NAVTEX facilities based in Brunei.

.2 The Panel is grateful to the NAVAREA XI Coordinator for their continued diligence and application in broadening the NAVTEX availability in their region.

CURRENT OPERATIONAL ISSUES

3. Wider issues associated with the promulgation of maritime safety information:

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

3.2 The Panel is aware, however, of instances where repeat transmissions of message content on behalf of other authorities where the same information had been cancelled between the original transmission and the subsequent re-transmission. NAVTEX authorities are requested to check with the original authority immediately prior to re-transmission in order to avoid conflicting information.

4. Non-operational NAVTEX stations:

4.1 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. The Panel recognizes that on occasion, there may be a lack of clarity regarding any potential outage however the Panel requests that the relevant authorities share whatever information they have in order for alternative arrangements to be made if necessary.

NAVDAT

5. At NCSR 11 Working Group on Search and Rescue and Other Technical Matters were instructed to consider the remaining work required to be conducted in the context of implementation of the NAVDAT system. The Group acknowledged the need to develop a NAVDAT Co-ordination Scheme (NCSR11/WP.1, paragraph 8.9, NCSR 11/WP.8, Paragraphs 30 and 31), with the sub-committee inviting the Panel to develop such a scheme; considering how to introduce NAVDAT holistically alongside the existing NAVTEX co-ordinating framework.

6. As yet NAVDAT, as a service, is not adequately mature enough to fully consider how it will integrate with existing services. A programme of comprehensive and rigorous testing of the system is required to gain a thorough insight of signal propagation and integrity before

the question of co-ordination can be properly considered (NCSR11/Wp.8, Annex 5, paragraph 6 and 10).

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

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