

# Agenda Item 14.1: Outcomes of the Twenty-seventh Session of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS-XXVII)



**SPREP**  
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional  
Environment Programme

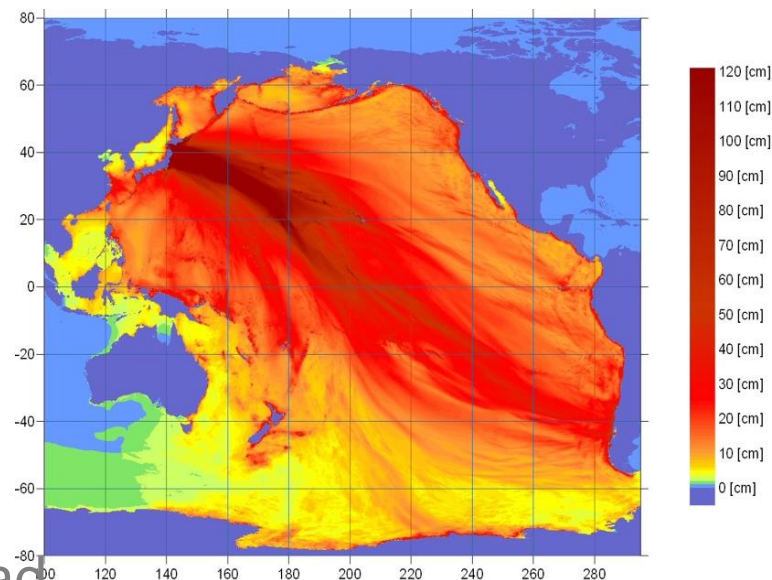
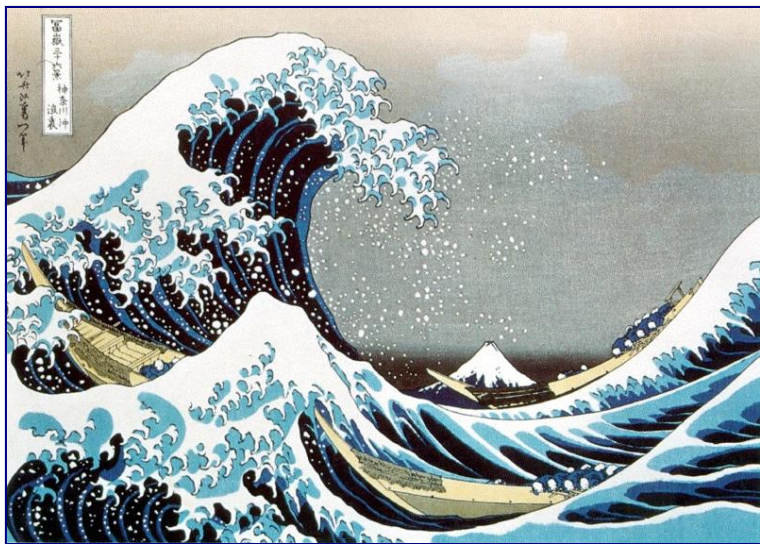


WORLD  
METEOROLOGICAL  
ORGANIZATION



PACIFIC  
METEOROLOGICAL  
COUNCIL

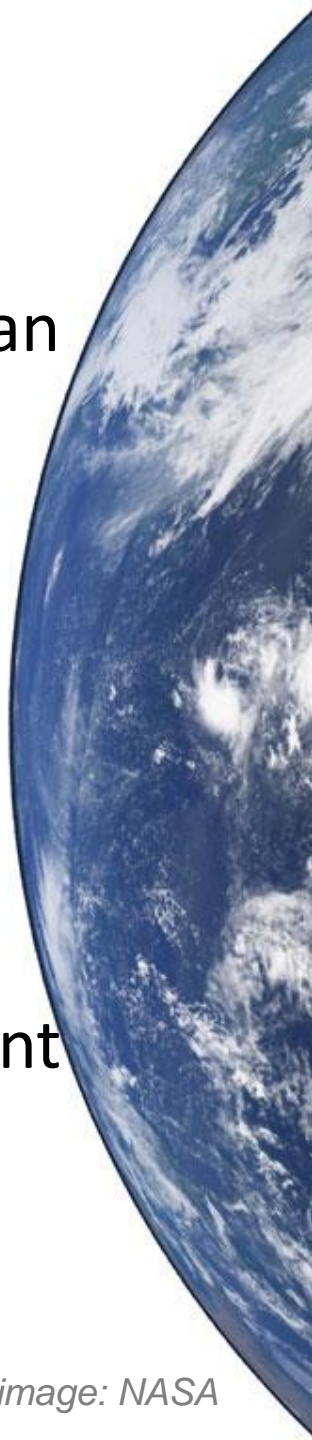
**Outcomes of  
27<sup>TH</sup> Session of ICG PTWS, Tahiti, French  
Polynesia, 28-31 March 2017  
and  
5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of PTWS Regional Working Group  
for PICTs  
Honiara, Solomon Is, Aug 2017**



Rajendra Prasad  
IOC Programme Officer  
c/o SPC-GSD, Suva, FIJI

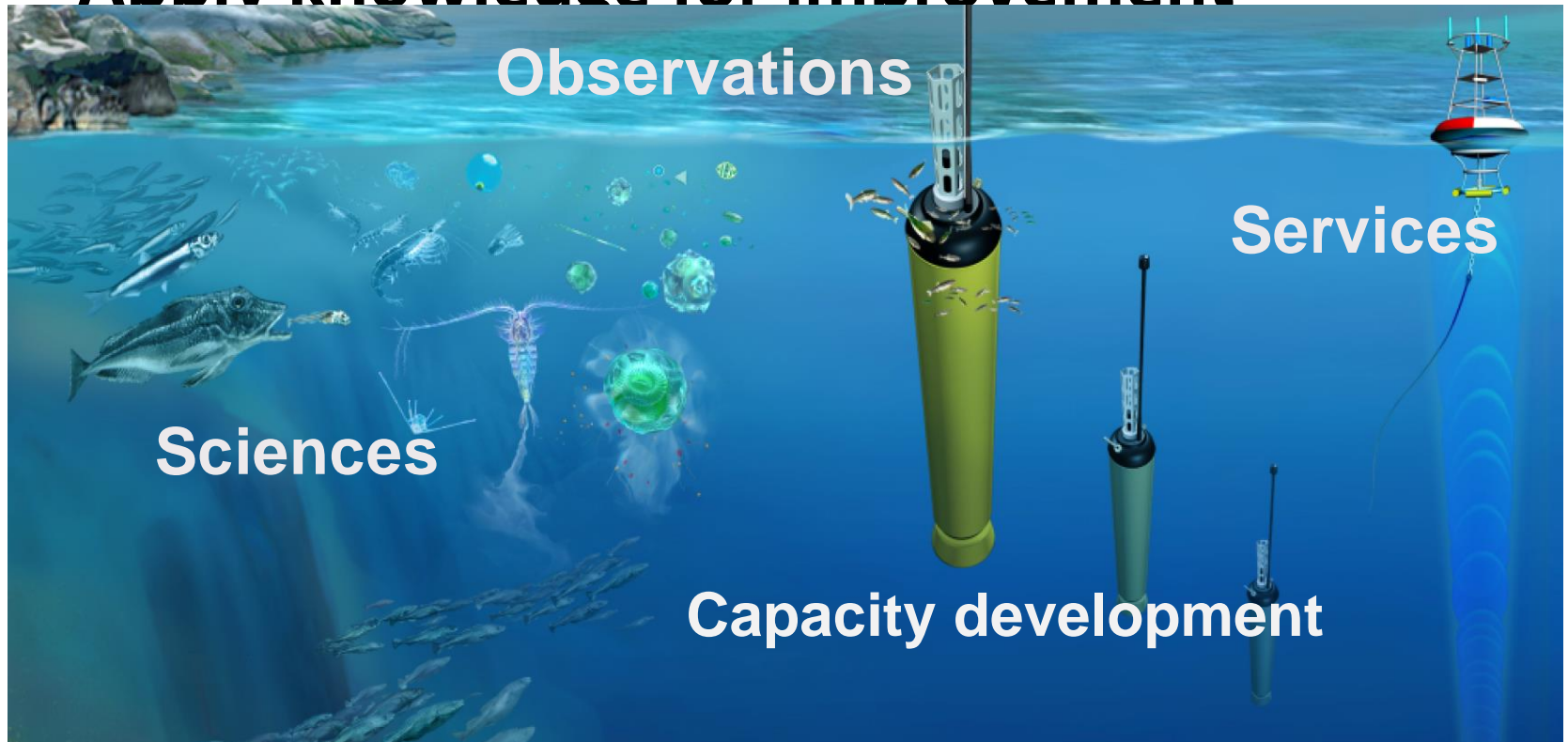
# Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- ❑ Focal point in UN for ocean observations, ocean science, ocean services and data exchange
- ❑ Competent international organization for marine science
- ❑ Marine and Coastal hazards
- ❑ Climate change and variability
- ❑ Health of ocean ecosystems
- ❑ Sustainability of coastal and ocean environment and resources



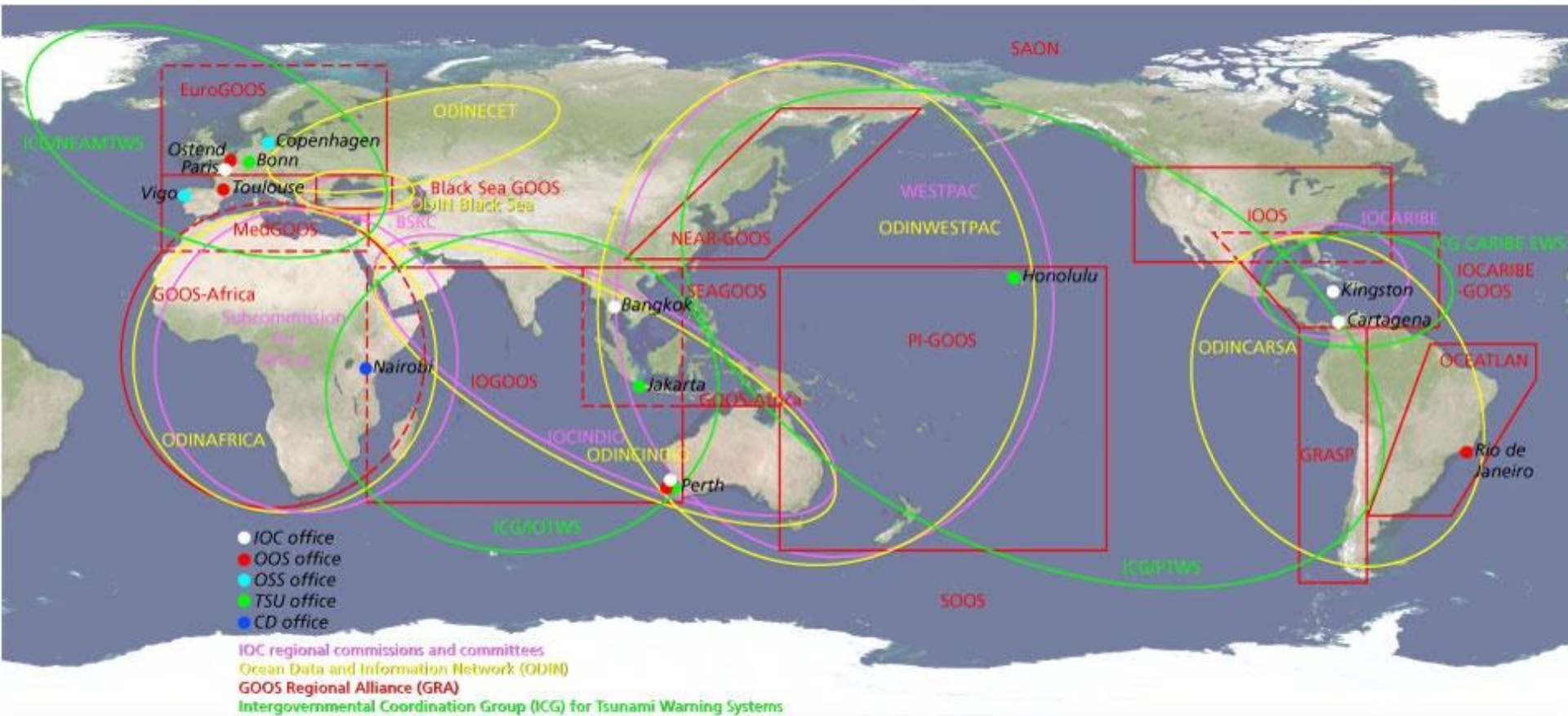
# Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

- Promote international cooperation and coordinate programmes
- Apply knowledge for improvement





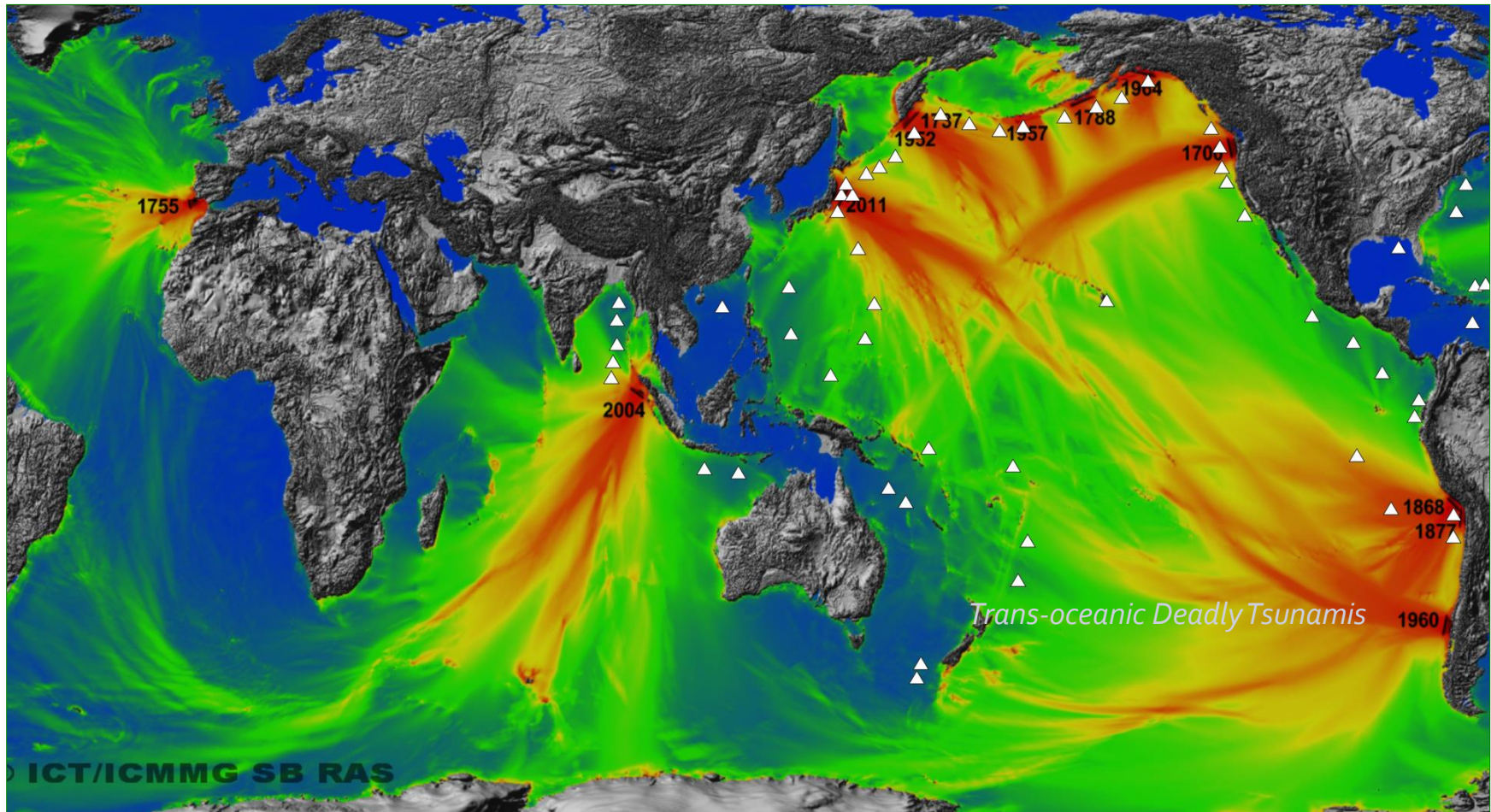
# IOC Regional Bodies





# Pacific Tsunami Warning System

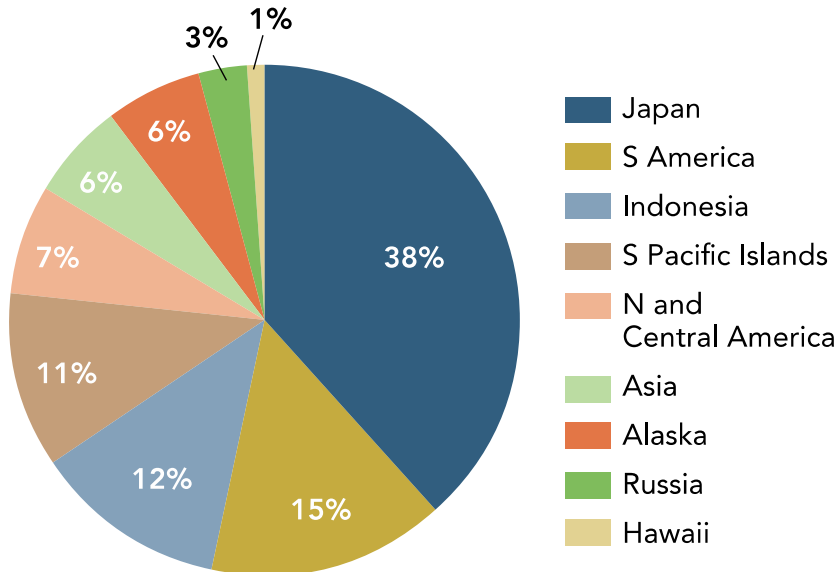
## A half-century of protecting the Pacific, 1965-2015



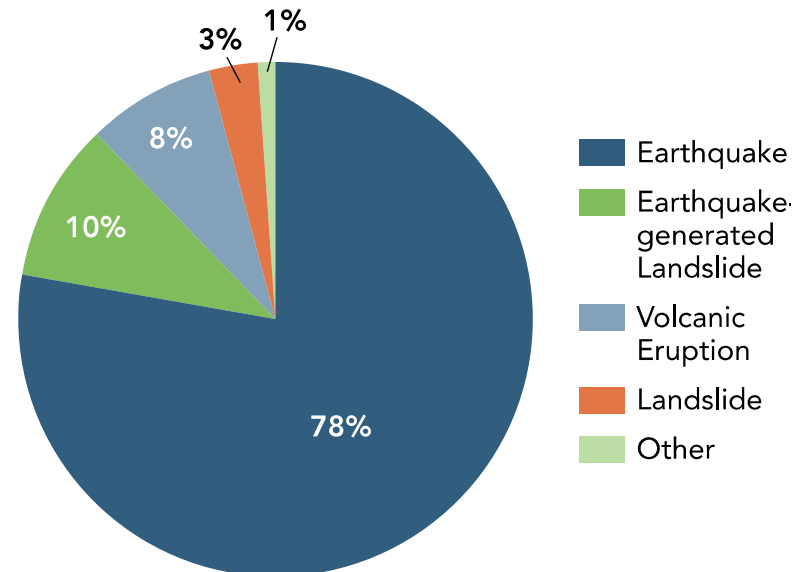


# DEADLY TSUNAMIS

**Geographic distribution of deadly Pacific tsunami sources.** Credit: NGDC



**Distribution of causes for deadly Pacific tsunamis.** Credit: NGDC

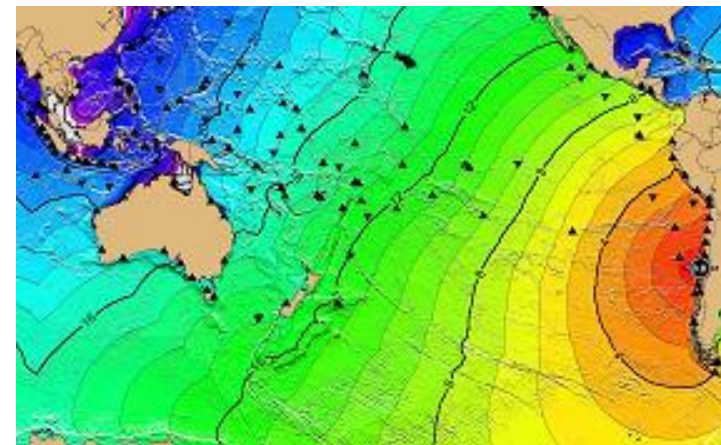
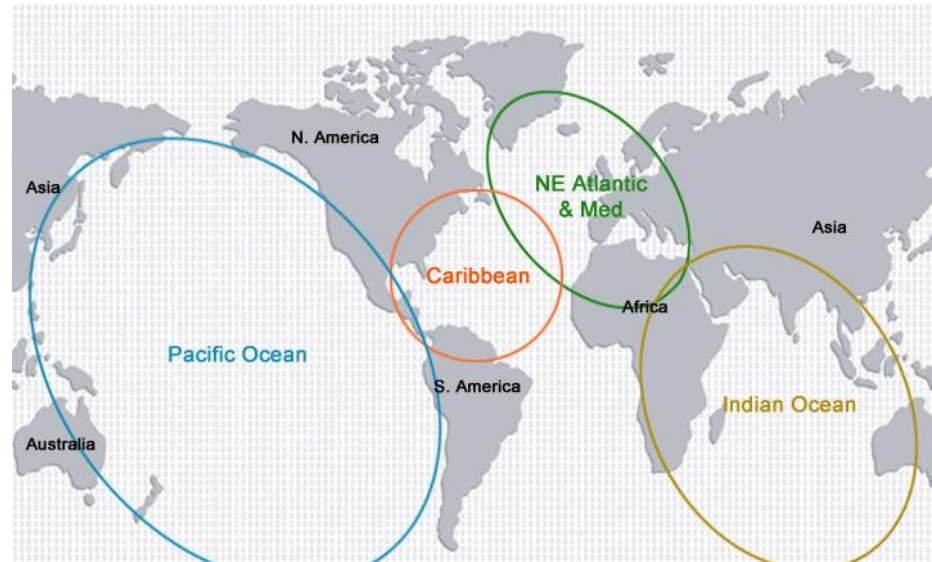


- ❑ **76% in Pacific Ocean and Marginal Seas**
- ❑ **99% fatalities from Local or Regional Tsunamis**



# Tsunami Warning and Mitigation Systems

- Pacific since 1965
- 2004 tsunami in Indian Ocean illustrated need for more
- IOC established three more TWS
  - ICG IOTWMS
  - ICG CARIBE EWS
  - ICG NEAMTWS





# IOC ICG/PTWS STRUCTURE - WORKING GROUPS AND TASK TEAMS 2017-2019

## Inter-Governmental Coordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (ICG/PTWS)

Chairperson: Ms. Filomena Nelson (Samoa)

Vice-Chairs: Mr. Satoshi Harada (Japan)

Dr. Wilfried Strauch (Nicaragua)

Steering Committee: Officers, Working Group Chairs, PTWC, NWPTAC, ITIC

**Regional Working Group  
Central American  
Pacific Coast (CA-PAC)**

**Regional Working Group  
South East Pacific  
(SEP)**

**Regional Working Group  
Pacific Island Countries  
and Territories (PICT)**

*'Ofa (Tonga), Jerome (NC)*

**Regional Working Group  
South China Sea  
(SCS)**

**Working Group 1  
Understanding  
Tsunami Risk**

**Working Group 2  
Tsunami Detection, Warning  
and Dissemination**

**Working Group 3  
Disaster Risk Management  
and Preparedness**

**SC Task Team  
Future Goals  
and  
Performance  
Monitoring**

**SC Task Team  
Evacuation Maps,  
Plans, and Procedures  
(TEMPP) and  
Tsunami Ready**

**SC Task Team  
PacWave18  
Exercise**

**WG2 Task Team  
Seismic Data  
Sharing in the  
South West  
Pacific**

**PICT WG  
Task Team  
Capacity  
Development**

**SCS WG Task Team  
Establishment  
of a South China  
Sea Tsunami  
Advisory Center**

# ICG PTWS XXVII - Tahiti, 28-31 March 2017

- Close to 70 participants attended from 24 Member States.
- 11 participants from 8 PICs - Cook Is, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Samoa (2), Solomon Is, Tonga (3), and Vanuatu
- Elections - Refer to ICG PTWS XXVII Report
- Recommendations - Refer to ICG PTWS XXVII Report



# ICG PTWS XXVII – Decisions & Recommendations

- **Elected ICG PTWS Chair - Ms. Filomena Nelson (Samoa)**



Vice Chairs - Mr Satoshi Harada (Japan)

Dr Wilfried Strauch (Nicaragua)

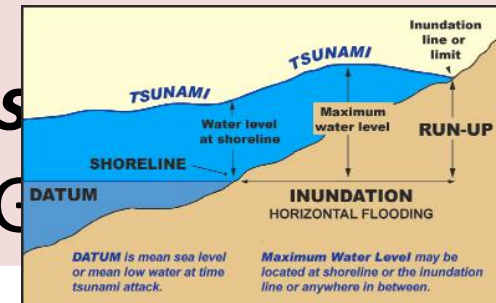
- **Changed** name of PTWS Regional WG for SW Pacific to PTWS Regional Working Group for PICTs

Chair - Ofa Fa'anunu (Tonga)

Vice Chair - Jerome Aucan (New Caledonia)

- **Approved** the establishment of a *Tas* **Capacity Development** under the WG

Co-Chairs - 'Ofa Fa'anunu (Tonga)





## ICG PTWS XXVII – Decisions & Recommendations

• **Instructed** *Working Group 2 on Tsunami Detection, Warning and Dissemination* to establish by mid-2018 the minimum competency level for NTWC operations, by identifying

- a) what competencies are required and
  - b) what training schemes are currently in existence and what guidelines and principles can be adapted for this purpose;
- and report progress on this task to the PTWS Steering Committee

• **Agreed** to organise Exercise Pacific Wave 2018 (PacWave18) to take place in September through to November 2018 to support:

1. International Disaster Risk Reduction Day (13 October)
2. World Tsunami Awareness Day (5 November);

## ICG PTWS XXVII – Decisions & Recommendations

- **Recognized** the critical contribution of the Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET) to the PTWS and appreciated the French government's contribution that helped establish this key network and the intention of the Vanuatu Government to continue to administrate the network pending availability of resources
- **Requested** ORSNET Member Countries and other PTWS Members to urgently seek funding resources with relevant development partners to sustain this important network.

# ICG PTWS XXVII – Decisions & Recommendations

- **Recommended** Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) and NTWCs use the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) to facilitate the messages dissemination process
- **Decided** to establish a Task Team on Tsunami Evacuation Maps, Plans, and Procedures (TEMPP) and Tsunami Ready.
- **Noted** that while Tsunami Service Providers (TSPs) will seek to detect, monitor and provide threat advice for all tsunamis within their respective areas of responsibility they will not always be able to provide guidance in sufficient time and/or accuracy in the case of local source tsunamis. Member States should fully consider this constraint in their local tsunami response SOPs. Therefore, ICG PTWS countries should reaffirm the best mechanism for responding to local source tsunami is public education, and ensuring their understanding and response to natural warning signs



# **PTWS Regional Working Group on Tsunami Warning and Mitigation in the Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (PICTs)**



**5<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 07-08 Aug'17, Honiara, SI**

**Attended by 36 participants from 11 Pacific Island Countries & Territories, SPREP,  
UNDP and IOC**

## 5<sup>th</sup> PICT WG – Decisions & Recommendations

- New Zealand and Samoa requested to consider support for the establishment of **Tsunami EWS for Tokelau** in collaboration with development partners.
- IOC and ITIC to identify training needs, training institutions and programs and support PICTs in securing funding to enable NTWC staff to receive **training in seismology, tsunami science, and Tsunami Warning Centre operations**
- Requested the PMC PICI Panel to continue its work **to improve communications and infrastructure** for seismic data collection and warning dissemination to coastal communities
- IOC, ITIC and other stakeholders to continue support for **piloting of Tsunami Ready program in PICTs** (Tonga, Niue, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands expressed interest)

# Tsunami Ready Recognition

*Savaia, Lefaga Village, Samoa*



UNESCO IOC  
Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the  
Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System  
ICG/PTWS

## *Certificate of Recognition*

**Alii ma Faipule of Savaia, Lefaga**  
Village Climate and Disaster Management Committee

For successfully implementing the UNESCO IOC Tsunami Ready Pilot Project  
in SAVAIA, LEFAGA, INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA

June 19, 2017

Vladimir Ryabinin, PhD  
Assistant Director General and  
Executive Secretary, UNESCO

Ulu Bismarck Crawley  
Chief Executive Officer  
MNRE, SAMOA

Filomena Nelson  
Chair  
UNESCO IOC ICG/PTWS



UNESCO IOC  
Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the  
Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System  
ICG/PTWS

## *Certificate of Appreciation*

**Afioga Tusanilefaiaao Iosefatu Reti**  
President, Savaia Climate and Disaster Management Committee

For successfully implementing the UNESCO IOC Tsunami Ready Pilot Project  
in SAVAIA, LEFAGA, INDEPENDENT STATE OF SAMOA

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Vladimir Ryabinin, PhD  
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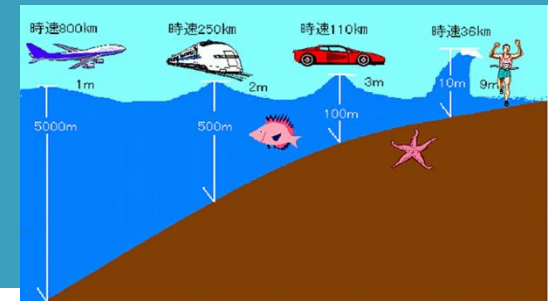
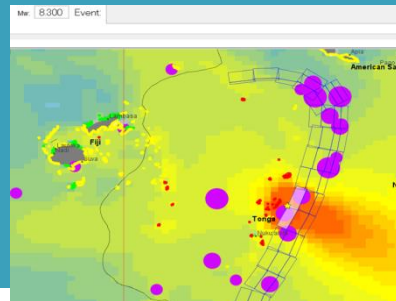
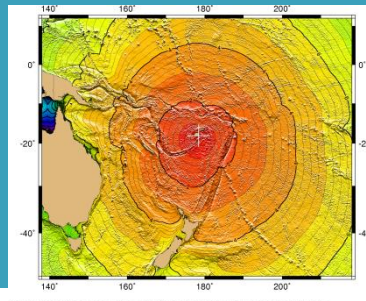
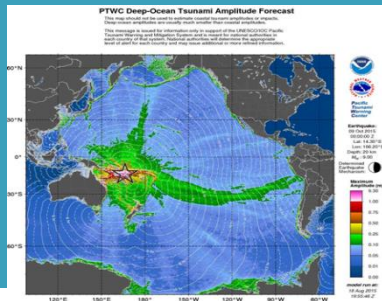
Ulu Bismarck Crawley  
Chief Executive Officer  
MNRE, SAMOA

Filomena Nelson  
Chair  
UNESCO IOC ICG/PTWS



# 5<sup>th</sup> PICT WG – Decisions & Recommendations

- Request ICG/PTWS Technical Working Group 2 to include interested PICTs in any pilot program that will be implemented to **test competency guidelines**.
- Expressed its appreciation to **NorthWest Pacific Tsunami Advisory Centre operated by JMA** for extending its area of coverage south of Equator to provide enhanced tsunami forecast products for some PICTs, and requested **JMA to provide training materials** for its new service.
- UNESCO IOC to continue the position of IOC National Program Officer based in UNESCO Apia Office and for the position to be filled as soon as possible to minimize gaps in support for implementation of work program for PICTs.



# Recommendations:

The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note** the outcomes and recommendations of PTWS XXVII Session held in Tahiti, French Polynesia, from 28 – 31 Mar'17.
- **Note** the outcomes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Pacific Island Countries and Territories held in Honiara from 7-8 Aug'17.
- **Request** Pacific Meteorological Council members to:
  1. Participate actively in ICG PTWS and PICT Working Group for TWS programmes and activities given that the National Meteorological Services are the official warning focal points and centers for tsunami in the PMC Member States to further strengthen tsunami detection, warning and response at regional, national and local levels;
  2. Support the implementation of the recommendations from the Fifth Meeting of the ICG/PTWS Regional Group for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories

# Recommendations:

The Meeting to:

- **Request** Pacific Meteorological Ministerial Meeting through Pacific Meteorological Council to support further investment in strengthening and up-scaling tsunami warning and early warning systems infrastructure within PICTs including NMHSs staff competency and capability.