Institutional Arrangements
Last meeting of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group

- ICG V meeting held in Managua, March 2010
- Re-election of Dr. Lorna Inniss (Barbados) as Chairperson
- Agreement to incorporate a third vice-chair and election of new vice-chairs
ICG CARIBE EWS Executive

Chair
Lorna Inniss - BARBADOS

Vice Chairs
Christa von Hillebrandt-Andrade - USA
Francisco Garces – VENEZUELA
Frédérique Martini – France

Secretariat
Interim Secretariat for the CARIBE EWS : The Tsunami Unit of IOC. Technical Secretary : Bernardo Aliaga
Working Groups and Chairs

- Monitoring and Detection Systems, Warning Guidance – Nicaragua and Venezuela
- Tsunami and Coastal Inundation Hazard Risk Assessment and Research – USA and France
- Warning, Dissemination, and Communications – USA and Anguila
- Preparedness, Readiness and Resilience – Honduras and Venezuela
Progress on ICG Implementation Plan
Caribbean Tsunami Warning Center (CTWC)

- WCATWC and PTWC continue to provide interim tsunami warning service and guidance to the region
- Venezuela and Nicaragua also have made efforts and technical advances towards the establishment of a CTWC
Caribbean Tsunami Warning Center (CTWC)

NOAA NWS established in February 1, 2010 the Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program, jointly located at the Puerto Rico Seismic Network at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez as a 1rst step of the U.S. phased contribution to the establishment of a Caribbean Tsunami Warning Centre.

Christa G. von Hillebrandt CTWP Manager, with Harold Irizarry, Data Analyst, PRSN
Caribbean Tsunami Information Center (CTIC)

- The Italian-funded project has experienced some delays in start-up
- Signing of the MoU with UNDP expected later this month
- The programme is expected to be launched during the next two months
- Barbados has already allocated office space in preparation for the CTIC's establishment
Working Group 1 – Monitoring and Detection Systems, Warning Guidance

Working Group 1 of CARIBE EWS met in Feb. 2010 in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico
Seismic Data Availability in the Caribbean
77% (95/124) of Core CARIBE EWS Stations are contributing in real time
Sea Level Data Availability in the Caribbean

100% (6/6) of the DART stations are installed
20% (19/94) of coastal sea level gauges are operational and transmitting at least every 15 minutes

Limón, Costa Rica sea level station, upgraded in 2009 w/ USG funding
Since the demand for high speed transmissions on GOES exceeds its current capabilities, the CARIBE EWS:

- **Acknowledges** that sea level data are essential for the detection and forecasting of tsunamis and given the short onset time of tsunamis in the region, affirms sea level station operation requirements necessitate that these data be transmitted **within 5 minutes** to the extent technically feasible;

- **Invites** the US to identify the number of slots available on GOES for the high speed transmission rates;

- **Further invites** the US to work with the corresponding bodies to establish a procedure that can be used as a guidance to evaluate request for high rate transmissions

- **Recommends** that alternatives for robust high rate transmissions also be explored
Working Group 4 – Preparedness Readiness and Resilience

• USAID-funded CDEMA project has been completed, with the development of a suite of educational products in English
  – Culture-based Public Service Announcements
  – Brochures and Flyers
  – Booklets
  – Teacher training and schools curriculum materials
• Establishment of a website which is almost completed www.beready.org where all materials are accessible
• Four countries are making progress in completing their tsunami communications protocols, drafted during the project
TsunamiReady™ Summit
May 2010, Mayagüez, PR

- Recognized TsunamiReady as an effective program to help protect life, property and livelihood
- Endorsed that TsunamiReady be expanded to the non US Caribbean
- Attended by almost 100 participants from emergency management and earthquake and tsunami monitoring institutions from PR, the Caribbean and US Mainland
- Recommended that IOC explore managing international licensing agreements and verification.
January 12th Haiti Event

- 7.0 Magnitude; Struck in the early hours of the evening
- Significant loss of life due to earthquake
- A local tsunami was generated – 3m run-up
- Triggered the CARIBE EWS and allowed for a comprehensive evaluation of the system’s performance

- Secretariat distributed a Post Event Assessment Questionnaire
- Twenty-two of 28 responses received
- Timely bulletins were received by most countries
- Sea level was scarcely monitored during the event
Follow up
CARIBE Wave/LANTEX Exercise 2011

- **The ICG decided** to conduct a joint CARIBE Wave 2011 and LANTEX 2011 exercise in the Western Atlantic, Caribbean and Adjacent Regions on March 23rd, 2011

- **Endorsed** the establishment of a Task Team to oversee the exercise
Immediate Next Steps

• Proposed updates to the CARIBE EWS Implementation Plan
• Provide technical assistance to Haiti in re-establishing its monitoring and warning capabilities
• Preparations for the first ever Caribbean Tsunami Communications Exercise
• Work with donor agencies to continue hazard assessment programme under Working Group II
• Expand the use of generic communications protocols by all Member States
• ICG VI will consider further contributions of MS to the establishment of a Regional Tsunami Warning Center
ICG CARIBE VI

• The ICG acknowledged the gracious offer of the Dominican Republic to host the next ICG meeting

• Agreed that the meeting should be held after the report of the Caribe Wave/LANTEX exercise is available for debate
• Thank you for attention