

Sample Press Release for Local Media

TEMPLATE FOR NEWS RELEASE

USE AGENCY MASTHEAD

Contact: (insert name)
(insert phone number)
(insert email address)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(insert date)

CARRIBEAN TSUNAMI EXERCISE TO BE CONDUCTED 20 March 2013

(insert community/county/state name) will join other localities in the Caribbean as a participant in a tsunami response exercise on 20 March 2013. The purpose of this exercise is to evaluate local tsunami response plans, increase tsunami preparedness, and improve coordination throughout the region.

(insert a promotional comment from a local official, such as “The 2011 Japan and the 2010 Haiti and Chile earthquakes and tsunamis have reminded the world again of the urgent need to be more prepared for such events,” said (insert name of appropriate official). “This important exercise will test the current procedures of the Tsunami Warning System and help identify operational strengths and weaknesses in each community.” (Please modify for uniqueness.)

The exercise, titled CARIBEWAVE/LANTEX 13, will simulate a widespread Tsunami Warning and Watch situation throughout the Caribbean which requires implementation of local tsunami response plans. It is the second such international exercise in the Caribbean region. The exercise will (insert “include” or “not include”) public notification.

The exercise will simulate a major earthquake and tsunami generated 57 miles north of Oranjestad, Aruba, in the Caribbean Sea at 9:00 a.m. Atlantic Standard Time (or appropriate local time) on 20 March 2013. Exercise participants will be provided with a handbook which describes the scenario and contains tsunami messages from the West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center (WCATWC) and the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC). The WCATWC is currently responsible for providing tsunami information to the Atlantic coasts of U.S. and Canada, the Gulf of Mexico coast, Puerto

Rico, and the Virgin Islands while the PTWC is the interim Regional Tsunami Watch Provider for the other countries in the Caribbean Sea and Adjacent Regions.

Insert paragraph tailored for specific community. Could identify participating agencies and specific plans. Could describe current early warning program, past tsunami exercises (if any), ongoing mitigation and public education programs, etc. Could describe tsunami threat, history of tsunami hazards, if any.

If any real tsunami threat occurs during the time period of the exercise, the exercise will be terminated.

The exercise is sponsored by the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS) of the IOC of UNESCO, the Caribbean Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), the Coordination Centre for Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPREDENAC), the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and by the U.S. National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program (NTHMP – a partnership of 29 States and territories and three federal agencies). For more information on the U.S. Tsunami Warning System, see www.tsunami.gov. For more information on the NTHMP, see nthmp.tsunami.gov. For more information on the ICG/CARIBE EWS, see:

http://www.ioc-tsunami.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9&Itemid=15&lang=en

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On the Web:

ICG/CARIBE EWS

West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Center

Pacific Tsunami Warning Center

NOAA Tsunami Program

NTHMP:

Caribbean Tsunami Warning Program

Insert state/local emergency response URLs

<http://www.ioc-tsunami.org>

<http://wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov>

<http://ptwc.weather.gov>

<http://www.tsunami.gov>

<http://nthmp.tsunami.gov>

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/srh/ctwp>

Source:

EXERCISE CARIBE WAVE/LANTEX 13

A Caribbean Tsunami Warning Exercise (IOC- UNESCO)