CPRNW
Meeting 10
Agenda Item 3.2.1

CPRNW10/3/2/I
16 July 2008

MSI Self Assessment – NAVAREA I

Submitted by: United Kingdom

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: Overview of activities undertaken within NAVAREA I since CPRNW 9

Action to be taken: see paragraph 10

Related documents: Nil

1. Background:

Current limits of NAVAREA I:

48° 47'N, 004° 46'W (France West Coast) to
48° 47'N, 035° 00'W to
66° 30'N, 035° 00'W (Greenland East Coast)
then
71° 00'N, 021° 00'W (Greenland East Coast) to
71° 00'N, 024° 00'E (Norway North Coast)

Navigational Warnings: 1730 (AOR-E)
Meteorological Information: 0930, 2130 (AOR-E)
(AOR-W) Warnings only
SafetyNET Satellite broadcast service provider: Stratos

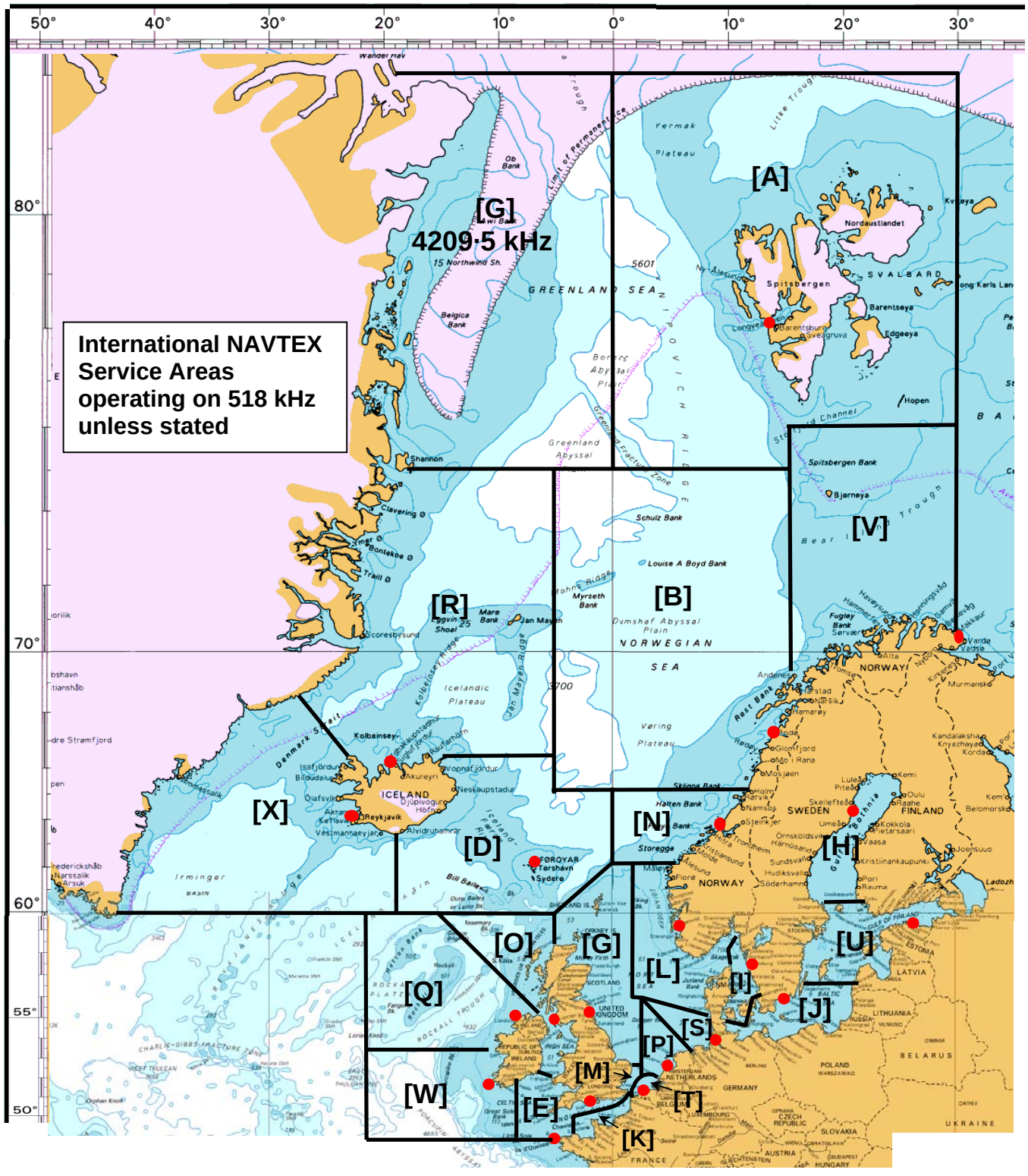
2. Comments:

Within NAVAREA I the WWNWS is a mature and effective system that in most respects requires little more than fine tuning. The Baltic Sea is run as a Sub-Area with Sweden (BALTICO) as the Co-ordinator. Coastal Warnings for all states in the area are promulgated on NAVTEX, and NAVAREA Warnings are broadcast on SafetyNET through the AOR(E) satellite.The following table shows the number of SafetyNET navigational warning messages (including weekly bulletins) that were promulgated:

	2005	**2006**	**2007**
NAVAREA I	521	360	344

3. NAVTEX Coverage:

a. The following diagram shows NAVTEX Service Areas for the International NAVTEX Service:



A	Svalbard, Norway	G	Cullercoates, UK	M	Oostende, Belgium (for UK)	S	Pinneberg, Germany
B	Bodo, Norway	H	Bjuroklubb, Sweden	N	Orlandet, Norway	T	Oostende, Belgium
C	Murmansk, Russia	I	Grimeton, Sweden	O	Portpatrick, UK	U	Tallinn, Estonia
D	Torshaven, Faeroes	J	Gislovshammer, Sweden	P	Ijmuiden, Netherlands CG	V	Vardo, Norway
E	Niton, UK	K	Niton, UK (for France)	Q	Malin Head, Ireland	W	Valentia, Ireland
F	Arkhangel'sk, Russia	L	Rogaland, Norway	R	Saudanes, Iceland	X	Grindavik, Iceland

b. Additionally the following stations have been allocated B1 characters to operate national NAVTEX services on 490 kHz:

C	**Portpatrick, UK**	L	**Pinneberg, Germany**
E	**Saudanes, Iceland**	T	**Niton, UK (for France)**
I	**Niton, UK**	U	**Cullercoats, UK**
K	**Grindavik, Iceland**		

4. Operational Issues:

- Towards the end of 2007, British Telecom, the national service provider for telex, announced that it was withdrawing from the supply and support of all telex services in the United Kingdom with effect from 31st March 2008. NAVAREA I Co-ordinator had traditionally relied upon this system for the transmission of EGC SafetyNET messages to Stratos. Consequently, a new protocol was installed which utilizes a two stage Real Time Messaging program to provide a direct internet interface with Burum CES. This system has proved to be very reliable and robust in allowing all the normal facilities to send messages using C codes (including C4) in accordance with the SafetyNET Manual, with the considerable added benefits commensurate with a Windows based system.

- At the beginning of January 2008, as a direct result of their telex line being immediately terminated by their telecoms contractor, the NAVAREA III Co-ordinator was faced with the critical situation of being unable to send SafetyNET messages to the CES of their Service Provider, Stratos. Therefore, potentially, no navigational warnings could be broadcast to their NAVAREA. Following an initial approach for advice on how best to overcome this problem, NAVAREA I Co-ordinator immediately offered to utilize the facilities of the NAVAREA I operations centre to forward NAVAREA III messages to the CES at Burum on their behalf for as long as it took the NAVAREA III Co-ordinator to implement an alternative method.

  During this period, from the beginning of the year until early April, NAVAREA I undertook full responsibility for relaying 211 Warnings (including bulletins and cancellations) to Burum on behalf of the NAVAREA III Co-ordinator.

- In March 2008, NAVAREA I informed Stratos of an anomaly regarding SafetyNET messages "in-force" over the 29th February (leap year day). Regular monitoring of both the NAVAREA I and NAVAREA III SafetyNET traffic, by "re-booting" the SES used to receive EGC messages, identified that messages which were broadcasted prior to 29th February with a cancellation date of later than 29th February, stopped being transmitted from1st March onwards. The particular messages in question were re-inserted onto the Stratos data-base for re-transmission. Stratos were given the EGC numbers of the messages affected but have been unable to come up with an explanation for the apparent process malfunction.

- Following discussions regarding the proposed new Arctic NAVAREAS, changes to the northern limit of NAVAREA I have been agreed which will be implemented when NAVAREA XIX becomes fully operational. The new NAVAREA I limits will then be:

  48° 47'N, 004° 46'W (France West Coast) to
  48° 47'N, 035° 00'W to
  66° 30'N, 035° 00'W (Greenland East Coast)
  then
  75° 00'N, 020° 00'W (Greenland East Coast) to
  75° 00'N, 005° 00'W to
  65° 00'N, 011° 00'E (Norway West Coast)

- **Iceland** has completed the installation of two new NAVTEX stations, one on the northern coast at Saudanes, and the other south of Reykjavik at Grindavik. These new stations will shortly begin broadcasting on both 518 and 490 kHz and will replace the existing station at Reykjavik.

- The changes to NAVTEX Service Areas reported to CPRNW 9 for the **United Kingdom** stations at Portpatrick and Cullercoats, and the **Norwegian** stations at Bodø and Orlandet, are being implemented as the new **Icelandic** and **Færoe Islands** stations become operational.

5. Capacity Building:

Since CPRNW 9, the inaugural IHO MSI Capacity Building Training Course held in Jamaica (June 2007) has been followed by two further courses: Mozambique, November 2007 to benefit countries in the area of influence of the Southern Africa and Islands Hydrographic Commission (SAIHC); and Spain, March 2008 to benefit countries in the area of influence of the Mediterranean and Black Sea Hydrographic Commission (MBSHC). NAVAREA I provided a tutor for each of these Courses and it is planned to provide the same level of assistance to the next course, in India in November 2008, to benefit countries in the area of influence of the North Indian Ocean Hydrographic Commission (NIOHC).

6. Other Activities:

In September 2007, the NAVAREA I Co-ordinator attended the 17th meeting of the BBRC (Baltic/Barents Sea Regional Co-operation on matters relating to COMSAR) in Moscow.

7. NAVAREA Website:

NAVAREA I is in the final stages of launching a web page on the UKHO web site which will provide live 24/7 posting of all NAVAREA and Coastal messages. The current estimate for the "go-live" of this new service is 26th August 2008.

www.ukho.gov.uk/ProductsandServices/MartimeSafety/Pages/MaritimeSafetyInfo.aspx

8. NAVAREA Contact Information:

No Change

9. Recommendations:

Nil

10. Actions requested:

The Commission is invited to note this report

11. Synopsis for meeting minutes:

The NAVAREA I Co-ordinator introduced the Self-Assessment Report. The key operational issues addressed during the last year were associated with the withdrawal of telex facilities by telecommunications companies and the resulting requirement to introduce new technology and processes to access the SafetyNET CES and hence maintain the integrity of NAVAREA Warning Service.