

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SA NAVY HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE

MARITIME SAFETY INFORMATION NAVAREA VII REPORT

TO THE

**15TH SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ISLANDS HYDROGRAPHIC
COMMISSION CONFERENCE (SAIHC)**

27 – 30 August 2018

Eden Island, Seychelles

SAIHC15
Meeting 15
Agenda Item 14

SAIHC15-14-NAVAREA VII
10 August 2018

MSI Self-Assessment 01 August 2017 to 31 July 2018 – NAVAREA VII

Submitted by: South Africa

SUMMARY

Executive Summary: This document provides MSI information related to NAVAREA VII for the period 01 August 2017 to 31 July 2018

Action to be taken: Report to be noted by the SAIHC15 Meeting.

Related documents: None.

1. **Background.** The South African Navy Hydrographic Office (SANHO), Coordinator of NAVAREA VII, in conjunction with the South African Meteorological Service, promulgates and disseminates shipping safety messages and weather information. Cape Town Radio is the GMDSS service provider and as such, transmits all MSI on behalf of the Coordinator.

SafetyNET

MSI transmission is to the Indian Ocean Region and to the Atlantic Ocean Region East.

Meteorological Forecasts and NAVAREA VII Warnings: 0940 and 1940 UTC.

Land Earth Station 12 Burum; Service Provider: Stratos Mobile Networks.

NAVTEX

NAVTEX coverage out to 200 nm from the Namibian and South African Coasts is passed from the Coast Radio Stations at Cape Town (**C**), Port Elizabeth (**I**) and Durban (**O**). The Coast Radio Station at Walvis Bay, Namibia (**B**) NAVTEX service is not operational. Cape Town Radio includes Namibian Maritime Safety Information with its scheduled NAVTEX and SafetyNET MSI broadcasts. Plans are currently formulated to bring a dedicated Namibian NAVTEX service back into operation.

Radio Telephony

South Africa

For the benefit of non-GMDSS adapted vessels, the Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Durban Radio Coastal Weather Bulletins and Navigational Warnings in force are combined and presented as one single-voice broadcast from Cape Town Radio at 1015 and 1815 UTC daily. The coastal weather report as at 1200 UTC is broadcast at 1333 UTC. Transmission is on HF on 4375, 8740 and on 13146 kHz and on 27 VHF traffic channels sited around the South African coast from Alexander Bay in the West to Kosi Bay in the East.

Namibia

All RT MSI broadcasts are on VHF LZ Ch23; WVS Ch26 & 27 and on HF: 4357 & 8719 kHz

0903 UTC: Navigational Warnings

0935 UTC: Weather Forecasts and Traffic List

1235 UTC: Coastal Weather Reports

1635 UTC: Weather Forecasts and Traffic List

Newly received navigational warnings are broadcast on receipt and thereafter are included in the once daily navigational warning broadcast at 0903 UTC.

Geographical Limits of NAVAREA VII:

Southern Africa – South Atlantic Ocean (AOR-E):

6° 00'S, 020° 00'W (Angola international border with The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), (West Coast) to the coast of Antarctica

and

Southern Africa – Indian Ocean (IOR):

10° 30'S, 055° 00'E (Mozambique international border with Tanzania, (East Coast) to

30° 00'S, 055° 00'E to

30° 00'S, 080° 00'E to the coast of Antarctica.

Operational Point of Contact for the National Coordinator within NAVAREA VII is:

Country	Telephone	Facsimile	Email
South Africa	+27 21 787 2445 +27 21 787 2408	+27 21 787 2233	hydrosan@iafrica.com

Port Control Vessel Traffic Services in South African hub ports provide information necessary for safe navigation within VTS routes and port approaches. However, a concerted effort is to be made to promote the dissemination of local warnings regarding hazards inside of the fairway buoy of any harbours by local port authorities within NAVAREA VII for safe navigation within VTS routes and port approaches. This would reduce the requirement to disseminate this information via Voice or NAVTEX or SafetyNET broadcasts via Cape Town Radio. SafetyNET coverage is available through the NAVAREA VII Coordinator for Angola, Namibia, Mozambique and Madagascar.

Although no MSI reports are received from **Angola**, the **Oil and Gas Industry** regularly reports on the movements of rigs, as well as other industry related matters. This information is published as a NAVAREA VII warning in the form of a rig list. The concern remains that Angola does not report on MSI related matters in terms of events taking place on its coastal areas and ports. Vessels transiting NAVAREA VII report MSI via coast radio stations or directly to SANHO. Resulting broadcasts are made via NAVTEX and SafetyNET.

The **Namibian Port Authority (NAMPORT)** is in regular contact with the NAVAREA VII Coordinator and as such, both SafetyNET and NAVTEX MSI concerning the Namibian coast are provided for promulgation by the SANHO. MSI reports mainly consist of gunnery exercise warnings, port construction operations and the status of Aids to Navigation.

The **Mozambique Institute of Hydrography and Navigation (INAHINA)** promulgate monthly Notices to Mariners. Relevant MSI is passed to the NAVAREA VII Coordinator for transmission on SafetyNET. MSI reports mainly consist of Aids to Navigation being out of order, and the concern exists that no other information regarding maritime safety is generated and communicated to South Africa.

Few MSI reports are received from **Madagascar** and mainly consist of the deployment of Aids to Navigation and related equipment being out of order.

There remains a lack of communication from **Iles Comores**.

La Reunion does not fall within NAVAREA VII, however, due to the island's location being relatively close to the eastern limit of the NAVAREA VII, regular MSI reports are received. This mainly consists of gunnery exercise warnings and reports regarding objects reported adrift ie small vessels, buoys, etc. This remains an important part of the service as mariners proceeding from NAVAREA VII to NAVAREA VIII are warned timeously of events taking place around the island of La Reunion.

Copies of NAVAREA Messages are received from the Coordinators of NAVAREAS II, VI, VIII and XI. Where necessary, MSI relevant to an adjacent area is retransmitted for the benefit of transiting traffic.

There is a lack of NAVTEX transmitting stations north of the South African international borders and there is still no apparent acquisition of MSI transmitting apparatus or implementation of MSI dissemination by States in the Great Rift Valley in the Southern African region.

2. Comments.

Equipment Type	Software Version	Date of Up-date
SafetyNET MSI via E-mail (SATCOM C)	Outlook 2016	June 2017
Navtex 518 kHz NBDP	NAVTEX Control Centre - Telkom Maritime Services	1995
MSI via VHF and HF voice broadcast	CITEC	1995

The GMDSS Master Plan for NAVAREA VII is up to date.

SafetyNET Messages Promulgated

2015 (379)				2016 (338)				2017 (420)			
E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text
129	250	Nil	Nil	112	226	Nil	Nil	144	276	Nil	Nil

Coastal Navigational Warning Messages Promulgated

2015 (766)				2016 (766)				2017 (748)			
E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text	E-mail	Fax	Phone	Text
261	505	Nil	Nil	193	388	Nil	Nil	80	668	Nil	Nil

NAVTEX coverage out to 200nm from the South African Coast is passed from the Coast Radio Stations at Cape Town (C), Port Elizabeth (I) and Durban (O). The Coast Radio Station at Walvis Bay, Namibia (B) NAVTEX, is currently not operational. These Coastal Navigation Warning messages are also transmitted by voice twice a day for the benefit of fishing vessels and leisure craft. See diagram attached at end of document.

NAVAREA VII Messages with Immediate Priority

2015		2016		2017	
Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time	Total	Average elapsed time
379	30 minutes	338	30 minutes	420	30 minutes

All MSI messages are promulgated with Immediate Priority. Average time elapsed between receipt of the message request by the SANHO and promulgation of the message by Cape Town radio is 30 minutes.

Requests for list of in-force navigational warnings

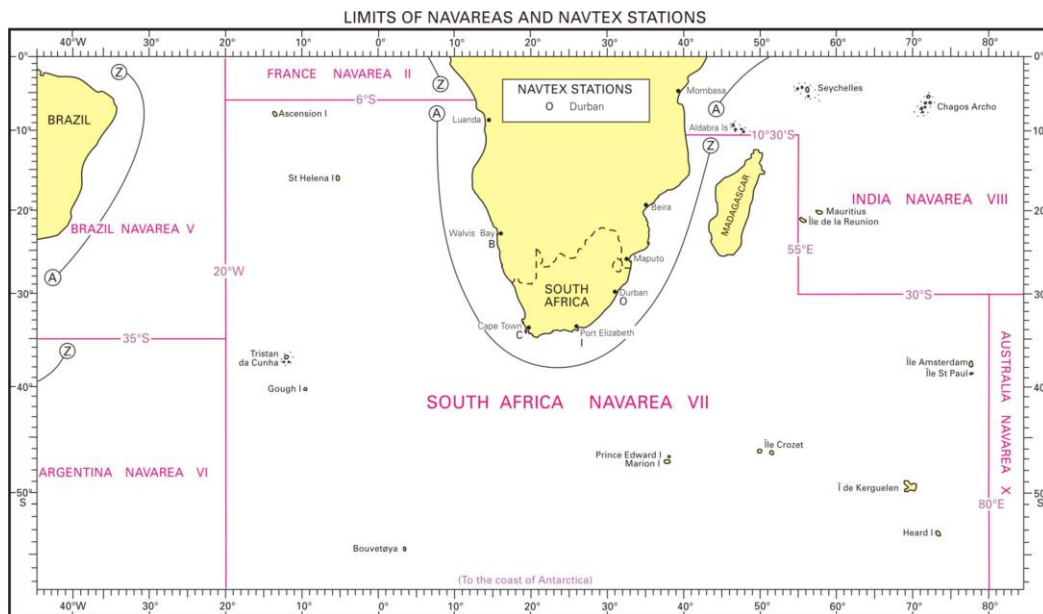
2015	2016	2017
160 approx.	160 approx.	194

The values in terms of request for in-force navigational warnings prior to 2017 were not calculated, although an average of approximately 160 per annum appears to be the norm for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 periods. However, a concerted effort was made to keep track of requests for in-force navigational warnings for 2017-18. All relevant requests are received via email only.

3. NAVTEX Coverage.

Contact details for NAVTEX Stations (Operational status is confirmed)

Station	Transmitter Identification Character (T.I.C) – B1 Character	Contact No
Walvis Bay Maritime Radio	B – not operational	+264 64 203581 (24H) Mobile: +264 811242697
Cape Town (CT)	C	+27 21 551 0700 PE and Durban is remotely controlled from CT Radio.
Port Elizabeth	I	
Durban	O	



4. **Operational Issues.** Angola and Iles Comores should be encouraged to communicate with the NAVAREA VII Coordinator and to adapt to the GMDSS and to implement MSI measures accordingly so that, where the degrees of hazard are known, that this information may be disseminated to warn mariners operating in the relevant area. For the safety of life, MSI awareness must be improved and the installation of radio communication equipment and the associated operator training is imperative.

The lack of NAVTEX Stations north of South African borders, including Namibia, is a persistent challenge. The installation of radio communication network equipment, and operator training, are the two most important components that need to be addressed.

The current state of MSI in the SAIHC Region is listed in the GMDSS table below:

STATUS OF SHORE BASED FACILITIES FOR GMDSS

Country	A1 Area	A2 Area	A3/A4 Area	NAVTEX X	SafetyNET	Notes
Angola	P	P	P	No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNET
Kenya	P	P		No	NAVAREA VIII	
Madagascar	P	P		No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNet
La Reunion	No	No	Yes	No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNET
Malawi	NI	NI	NI			
Mauritius	Yes	Yes	P	Yes	NAVAREA VIII	
Mozambique	P	Yes	P	No	Yes	Coastal

e						warnings broadcast by SafetyNET
Namibia	P	P	P	No	Yes	Coastal warnings broadcast by SafetyNET
Seychelles	P	P	P	No	NAVAREA VIII	
South Africa	P	NI	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Tanzania	P	P	P	No	NAVAREA VIII	
Uganda	NI	NI	NI			

P = Planned or to be decided

NI = No Information

Note: South Africa Area A2 not planned. Ultimately, DSC on 2187.5 kHz will not be introduced. Watch-standing on 2182 kHz will be discontinued, but not before introducing DSC on VHF Ch70. This is planned for 2018, but the actual implementation date is yet to be established.

Furthermore, a fourth NAVTEX transmitter (TIC: U) is also planned to be introduced. Our NAVTEX service will consequently provide 1 broadcast every hour of the day, i.e. TIC C, I, O and U will have 24 transmission time slots at: 0020, 0120, 0220, 0320, 0420, 0520, 0620, 0720, 0820, 0920, 1020, 1120, 1220, 1320, 1420, 1520, 1620, 1720, 1820, 1920, 2020, 2120, 2220, 2320 (all times SAST) respectively.

5. Quality Management Survey.

NAVAREA	ISO 9001 - 2000	Promulgate "In-Force" Bulletins	Promulgate "No-Warning" Messages	Monitor Broadcast in almost real time	24/7 contact information provided	Promulgate two scheduled broadcasts	IMO Master Plan updated
VII	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

6. **Contingency Planning.** To ensure the continuous operational capability of MSI dissemination via SATCOM C SafetyNET, a contingency plan has been proposed and agreed in principle between South Africa, France and Australia. During WNWNS-SC 9th Meeting, South Africa, France and Australia agreed to test the contingency plan during 2018, and the joint exercise subsequently took place on 06 June 2018. The exercise consisted of France simulating a total loss of capability, with South Africa broadcasting a self-canceling message on France's behalf. The message was successfully broadcasted within 30mins of receipt by the SANHO. No response was received from Australia during the planning phase of this exercise and as a consequence was not involved in the exercise.

7. **Capacity Building.** SAIHC have identified Capacity Building initiatives with MSI as a very important first phase component. The IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee (CBSC) has established a capacity building fund (CBF) to facilitate seed-corn activities such as technical workshops, visits and training courses within the region. As part of the CBSC initiatives, the IHO hosted an IHO SAIHC MSI Course at Fish Hoek, Republic of South Africa, from 05 to 07 September 2017. Delegates from Angola, Bangladesh, Comoros, Gambia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Seychelles, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Thailand attended the course.

Consequently, one delegate from South Africa has already been utilized as the standby MSI Officer at the SANHO on several occasions, proving the effectiveness of the course.

8. **Other Activities.** MSI awareness must be improved and the installation of radio communication equipment and associated operator training is imperative. The continuous efforts of SAIHC through courses, technical visits and discussions at conferences are aimed to achieve this objective.

9. **NAVAREA Website. (http://www.sanho.co.za/navarea7_bulletins/bulletin.htm).**

SafetyNET and NAVTEX messages are published on both the website and internal SA Navy website (Intranet) and updated daily during office hours from Mon to Fri (07:30 – 16:00 SAST). The date and time is displayed at the very top of the messages in force. Outside normal office hours, MSI is monitored by Cape Naval Radio who provides a 24H watch-keeping service and is in constant telephone contact with the MSI Officer. Cape Town Radio is the primary 24H service operator responsible for the dissemination of MSI messages. All navigational warnings in force are published and displayed on the SA Navy Intranet, as well as the Internet. These include messages older than 42 days.

10. **Contact details.** Please note that the email address for urgent navigation information (24 Hour Service) has changed from navcomcen.cape@sanavy.co.za to ncc@sanavy.co.za

NAVAREA VII Website. (http://www.sanho.co.za/_navarea7_bulletins/bulletin.htm).

Urgent navigation information (24 Hour Service):

Fax : +27 21 787 2228

E-mail : ncc@sanavy.co.za

Other navigation information (0730 - 1600 SAST Mon - Fri):

Fax : +27 21 787 2233

Phone : +27 21 787 2445/2444

E-mail : hydrosan@iafrica.com

General information (0730 - 1600 SAST Mon - Fri):

Phone : +27 21 787 2408

11. **Recommendations.** Angola, Mauritius and Iles Comores should be encouraged to communicate with the NAVAREA VII Coordinator and to adapt to the GMDSS and to implement MSI measures accordingly so that, where the degrees of hazard are known, that this information may be disseminated to warn mariners operating in the relevant area. For the safety of life, MSI awareness must be improved and the installation of radio communication equipment and the associated operator training is imperative.

The lack of NAVTEX Stations north of South African borders, including Namibia, is a persistent challenge. The installation of radio communication network equipment, and operator training, are the two most important components that need to be addressed. This requirement is constantly communicated to the delegates of these countries at SAIHC Conferences. Plans to bring a dedicated Namibian NAVTEX service back into operation needs to be expedited. The slow progress and the lack of adequate MSI implementation by States in the Great Rift Valley in the Southern African region remains a persistent matter of concern.

In light of the 9th meeting of the WWNWS-SC in Aug 17, South Africa has dedicated itself to join a dedicated S-124 co-operability document review working group within the WWNWS-SC, and encourages other states to join this group in the spirit of co-operability, especially within SAIHC. A draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the S-124 correspondence working group has been created. South Africa had no comments and accepted the TOR.

12. **Action requested.** Report to be noted by the SAIHC15 Meeting.

13. **Summary.**

- a. There remains a lack of NAVTEX Stations north of the South African international borders. Plans are currently formulated to bring a dedicated Namibian NAVTEX service back into operation.
- b. The slow progress and the lack of adequate MSI implementation by States in the Great Rift Valley in the Southern African region remains a persistent matter of concern.
- c. The RHC (SAIHC) continuously strives to instill the awareness of maritime safety and encourages the implementation of MSI measures by member states.
- d. To ensure the continuous operational capability of MSI dissemination via SATCOM C SafetyNET, South Africa, France and Australia agreed to test their contingency plan during 2018, and the plan was implemented on 06 June 2018 by means of a joint exercise.
- e. All navigational warnings in force at are published and available at **http://www.sanho.co.za/navarea7_bulletins/bulletin.htm**. These include messages older than 42 days.