

SPACEDAILY

YOUR PORTAL TO SPACE

SPACE WIRE

UN put in charge of coordinating duelling offers for tsunami warning system

KOBE, Japan (AFP) Jan 20, 2005

The United Nations was Thursday put in charge of sorting out differences among countries offering to build a tsunami early warning system after a flood of proposals in the wake of the Indian Ocean tragedy.

Salvano Briceno, head of the UN disaster reduction group, said a system to warn of giant waves in the Indian Ocean was still on track to be running in 12 to 18 months.

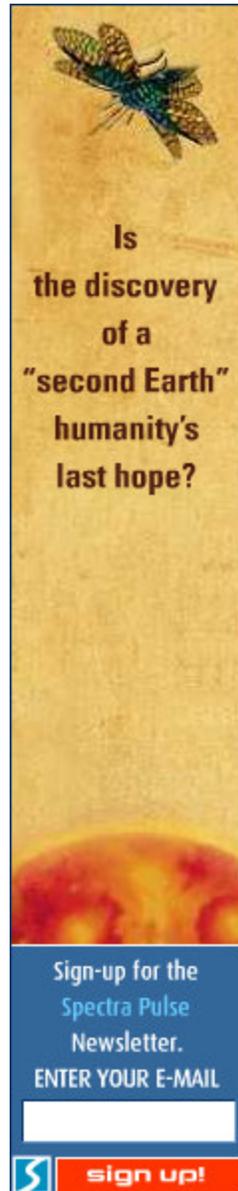
A draft of the common statement of the 150 countries meeting in Kobe, Japan agreed the United Nations "would integrate regional disaster reduction strategies."

But the draft called for two more meetings: one of ministers on January 28-29 on the tsunami-hit Thai island of Phuket to review the Kobe conference and one in Bonn in early 2006 to review implementation.

Germany, Japan, the United States and Australia have all offered to put their technology to use in the Indian Ocean after the waves smashed into 11 nations' coasts on December 26 killing nearly a quarter of a million people.

In addition to the four countries, which are the biggest donors to tsunami-hit countries, Briceno said offers at least to contribute to an early warning system had also come from India, China, France, Thailand and Indonesia.

"They all have capacities they want to make available," Briceno told reporters.



Is
the discovery
of a
"second Earth"
humanity's
last hope?

Sign-up for the
Spectra Pulse
Newsletter.
ENTER YOUR E-MAIL

sign up!

SPACE MEDIA NETWORK

SPACE DAILY
YESTERDAY
SPACE WAR
SPACE TRAVEL
SPACE MART
SPACE TV
ASTRONAUTIX
SITE SEARCH

MARS DAILY
MOON DAILY
ERP DAILY
TERRA DAILY
SATURN DAILY
SOLAR DAILY
ABOUT US
ADVERTISING

FREE NEWSLETTER

Subscribe Unsub

your email

SEARCH SPACEDAILY

Site Search

TSUNAMI NEWS WIRE

- [Italy offers bread and boats to boost Sri Lanka tsunami relief](#)
- [Norwegian envoys begin talks on saving Sri Lanka peace bid](#)
- [Midwives wanted to help 800 pregnant women in Aceh refugee camps](#)
- [Indonesia donors pledge fresh loans of 2.8 bn dol grants of 600 m](#)
- [Thailand moves to boost tsunami-devastated tour industry](#)
- [UN put in charge of coordinating duelling offers for tsunami warning system](#)
- [Indonesian army claims 120 rebels killed in Aceh peace hangs in balance](#)
- [US urges political solution in Aceh in wake of tsunamis](#)
- [Bush relative to push Sri Lanka tsunami relief](#)
- [Travel advisories harming us, say Sri Lanka's tour chiefs](#)

SPACEDAILY EXPRESS

- **Jan 20, 2005**
- [Indian Ocean Tsunami Death Toll Approaches Quarter Million](#)
- [Saturn Kicks Out Super-Fast Dust Streams](#)
- [Targeting Titan](#)
- [Hungry For More](#)
- [Antarctic Demolition Is Underway](#)
- [IDirect And Loral Skynet Demonstrate Remote Broadband Wireless Connectivity](#)
- [Iridium Selects Intrado For Emergency Call Center Solution](#)
- [Russia Led In 2004 Space Launches](#)
- [GlobeTel Signs Letter of Intent with NASA](#)
- [SpaceDev's CHIPSat Celebrates Second Anniversary In Space](#)
- [BAE Systems RAD750 Microprocessor To Help NASA Study Comet](#)
- [Nanotechnologists' New Plastic Can See In The Dark](#)
- [NOAA's New Ship Targets Path-Finding Ocean Exploration And Research](#)
- [Jack Aubrey's Astronaut Corps](#)
- [Indosat Signs Multi-Transponder Deal With Intelsat](#)
- [LSU Researcher Solves Ancient Astronomy Mystery](#)
- [Geneva Aerospace Announces Production of its UAV Dakota Airframe](#)
- [Walker's World: The End Of American Hegemony](#)

"So the idea is that we will assess with those affected countries and the donor countries the role with which each of them can play," he said.

He said millions of dollars in government contributions were being sent to UN agencies to start with implementation.

"We do believe in 12 to 18 months there should be a basic capacity" on a warning system, Briceno said.

Shuzen Tanigawa, Japan's senior vice foreign minister, indicated frustration and said Tokyo would press ahead with its system despite the calls for further talks.

"I think we are the most advanced (in tsunami warnings) so we don't have to wait," Tanigawa said.

"After the tsunami something has to be done and you can't wait until there is a consensus. So some part of it has to be started, and it has to be coordinated," he said.

A person privy to the closed-door talks described the atmosphere as heated with delegates carefully choosing every word in the declaration. Separately, a Japanese official said negotiators were still working on the document into Thursday evening.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies warned that the Kobe conference could end up failing in its target of reducing the risks of disasters.

"There is still time for a positive outcome but there is a very real danger that all we will get is rhetoric," said Eva Von Oelreich, the Federation's disaster preparedness head.

The five-day conference, which closes Saturday, has drawn some 4,500 experts and officials with half of them registering after the tsunamis.

The United States, which has rejected the Kyoto protocol on global warming, said it objected to "multiple references" to climate change in the documents.

Briceno said an agreement was reached to mention climate change only once.

He said the push to refer repeatedly to climate change had come "mostly from small island nations" which feel threatened by global warming and the resulting rise in water levels.

The conference here had opened with a call by UN relief chief Jan Egeland for greater commitment by donor nations to disaster prevention. Egeland on Thursday fell ill with a fever, an aide said.

- [US Air Force Launches New Space Power Lab](#)
- [SatCon Announces Certification From DoD To Produce Space Level Products](#)
- [Antarctica: Clash Of The Ice Titans May Not Happen](#)
- [UN Announces Global Disaster Alert System, But Obstacles remain](#)
- [Russia And Europe Sign Space Agreement](#)
- [US Tries To Remove Climate Change References In UN Disaster Talks](#)
- [EU Gives Green Light To Anti-Crash Radars](#)
- [Toshiba Develops World's First Software To Operate PDA Via Mobile Phone](#)
- [Germany Sees No Alternative To Diplomatic Solution For Iran](#)
- [India And Pakistan Cool Kashmir Tensions Over Cross-Border Shelling](#)
- [US Team In Australia To Discuss Missile Defence Program](#)
- [China Suspends 30 Polluting Projects For Failing To Go Green Go-Ahead](#)

Ads by Goooooogle

[NASA Space Shuttle Stamps](#)

See Images of all the Space Shuttle Columbia Stamp and NASA Launches
[SpaceStamps.com](#)

[Jeff Bezos](#)

Article in BusinessWeek Read it online. Free Trial!
[www.KeepMedia.com](#)

[Hubble photos. Free Ship](#)

Buy Framed Astronomy Space photos Hubble Telescope NASA Free Shipping
[www.SkyImageLab.com](#)

SpaceMan.com - **\$8.95** Domain Names

www. .com

Only **\$7.85** for domain transfers!

Germany has said it will send satellite-equipped buoys to the Indian Ocean so its system could get off the ground immediately if accepted.

"The system is based on cutting-edge technology. It is fast, very precise and reliable," German delegate Hans-Joachim Daerr said.

The United States, by contrast, said the warning system should be "an expansion of the existing system in the Pacific," ambassador to Japan Howard Baker said.

si-np-sct/mtp

All rights reserved. © 2005 [Agence France-Presse](#). Sections of the information displayed on this page (dispatches, photographs, logos) are protected by intellectual property rights owned by Agence France-Presse. As a consequence, you may not copy, reproduce, modify, transmit, publish, display or in any way commercially exploit any of the content of this section without the prior written consent of [Agence France-Presse](#).

The contents herein, unless otherwise known to be public domain, are Copyright 1995-2005 - SpaceDaily. AFP and UPI Wire Stories are copyright [Agence France-Presse](#) and [United Press International](#). ESA Portal Reports are copyright [European Space Agency](#). All NASA sourced material is [public domain](#). Additional copyrights may apply in whole or part to other bona fide parties. Advertising does not imply endorsement, agreement or approval of any opinions, statements or information provided by SpaceDaily on any web page published or hosted by SpaceDaily. [Privacy Statement](#)