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Briefing on the WMO Support to Viet Nam to cope with Typhoon Haiyan

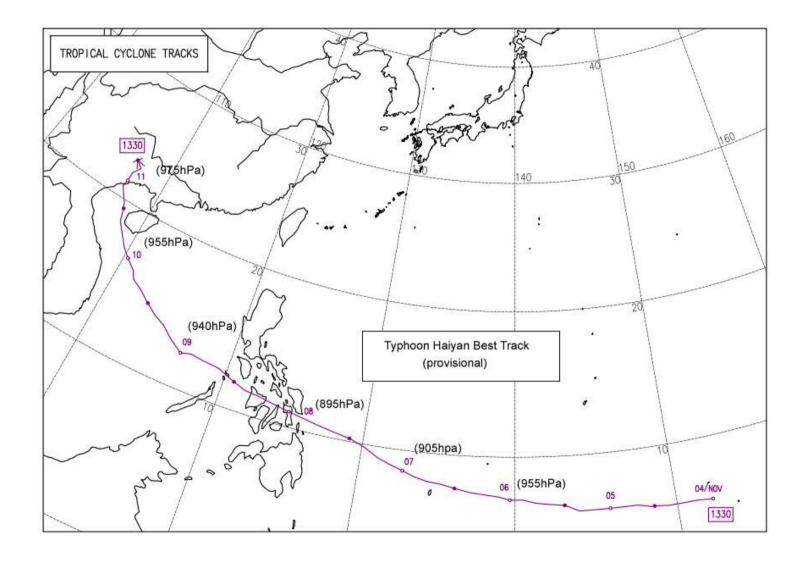
A Case of WMO Emergency Response

Typhoon Committee 8th IWS / 2nd TRCG FORUM, Macao, China, 2-6 Dec 2013

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Typhoon Haiyan trajectory





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Background

- Typhoon Haiyan remained strong after devastating the Philippines from 7 to 8 November.
- A letter was sent from DG of NHMS, Viet Nam to Typhoon Committee, WMO, RSMC Tokyo, NOAA/NWS, and ADPC on Friday, 8 Nov requesting for technical assistance to tackle Haiyan.



Actions taken by WMO Secretariat

- SG immediately set up an emergency response team (ERT) involving all the WMO programmes concerned and led by D/WDS.
- The 1st meeting of ERT was convened to discuss measures to support NHMS of Viet Nam.
- ERT requested RSMC Tokyo for special assistance to Viet Nam in addition to its routine services.
- ERT also requested Hong Kong, China (HKO) and CMA for technical assistance and support to Viet Nam.



Actions by RSMC Tokyo

- RSMC Tokyo set up a 24-hour focal point to communicate with National Center for Hydro - Meteorological Forecasting (NCHMF).
- RSMC briefed NCHMF about the JMA's new warning system to alert the people at risk of unprecedented disaster.
- In addition to the internet as routine, RSMC provided by email the track forecasts of major NWP centers including JMA, ECMWF, UK, NCEP, MSC, CMA, and KMA as well as the forecast of JMA storm surge model.
- Special advisory service for NCHMF by a JMA storm surge expert maintained.



Actions by HKO

- Focal point of HKO provided Viet Nam with practical advice and recommendation to increase the people's preparedness.
- HKO sent its track forecasts and other major NWP centers' to NCMHF.
- Provided advice and recommendations on:
 - a. public alert, warning, potential threats including high winds, heavy rain and storm surge as well as necessary actions to take;
 - b. central briefing by professional staff through mass media;
 - c. use of all available channels (web or mobile app) to communicate to the public.



Actions by CMA

- Deputy Administrator led a task team to support Viet Nam.
 The task team conducted teleconference with Viet Nam.
- CMA provided their National Disaster Response Plan to Viet Nam for reference.
- Guangzhou Regional Meteorological Centre provided the outputs of TRAMS (the Tropical Region Assimilation Model for South China Sea).
- CMA extended the intensive satellite observations (every 12 minutes) by FY-2F.
- TC ensemble forecasts of ECMWF and NCEP and CMA's forecasts of track/intensity including landfall were provided to NHMFC.



Response by Viet Nam

- Timely meetings of the Party Central Committee and the Government for response activities to Haiyan.
- NHMC hourly updated forecasting and warning through TV with possible severe impacts.
- Prime Minister was constantly and dully informed of the movement of Haiyan including forecast uncertainties.
- Deputy Prime Minister made a TV address to the nation to call for the highest preparedness.
- Fishermen were fully alerted by the emergency management authorities.



Lessens learnt by ERT

- Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) needs to be developed within the WMO Secretariat and for Members.
- Network of emergency contacts needs to be established between the Members and the Secretariat.
 - WMO Secretariat will soon contact the Members for developing the SOP.



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Thank you for your attention

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