



Disaster Communications

The Broadcasting Perspective

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Broadcasters Capabilities

■ Radio

- ◆ Wide Area Coverage attainable
 - ◆ Within communities
 - ◆ Within country
 - ◆ From neighbouring countries
 - ◆ Internationally
- ◆ Different ways
 - ◆ Local FM radio, AM radio
 - ◆ FM and AM radio networks
 - ◆ Shortwave broadcasting
- ◆ Receiving Messages
 - ◆ FM and AM receivers abundant
 - ◆ Windup radio option
 - ◆ Shortwave receivers common



Broadcasters Capabilities

■ Television

- ◆ Wide Area Coverage attainable
 - ◆ Within communities
 - ◆ Within country
 - ◆ From neighbouring countries
 - ◆ Internationally
- ◆ Different ways
 - ◆ Terrestrially (VHF, UHF)
 - ◆ Satellite
- ◆ Receiving Messages
 - ◆ Local and national networks
 - ◆ Mobile TV (longer term)



Broadcasters Capabilities

■ Mobility

- ◆ Ability to establish temporary facilities quickly (mostly radio)
 - ◆ Low power self contained
 - ◆ Radio in a box

■ Emergency warning broadcast systems (EWBS)

- ◆ Japan leads the way with radio and television based early warning of impending disasters



Broadcasters Capabilities

■ Radio in a Box

- ◆ Developed by the ABU for UNESCO
 - ◆ Radio programme production
 - ◆ DAW-based editing
 - ◆ Software controlled play-out
 - ◆ 30W FM transmitter, dipole antenna
- ◆ To be supplied to each UNESCO regional office
- ◆ Enquires from many broadcasters





Broadcasters Challenges

■ Pre-disaster

- ◆ Reliable systems and operations procedures to face emergency
- ◆ Arrangements in place with the national coordination agency for disaster warnings
- ◆ Authenticity of messages issued
- ◆ Emergency warning systems in place

■ Post Disaster

- ◆ Reliable operations
- ◆ Effective, accurate field reporting
- ◆ Social and relief operations messaging in co-ordination with national agencies



Broadcasters Declaration

- The Asia-Pacific Broadcasters (at their ABU 2007 GA in Beijing) declared:
That ABU MEMBERS will-
 1. Support the development of EWBS systems for the Asia-Pacific region
 2. Consider the introduction of (EWBS) systems which link with national and international organisations
 3. Urge national regulators to enact provisions to implement EWBS systems in the Asia-Pacific region
 4. Encourage manufacturers to produce receivers with the EWBS feature



Broadcasters Role

- Asia-Pacific Broadcasters are a key partner in delivering 'disaster communications' to the public
 - ◆ Wide spread coverage achievable to almost everyone!
 - ◆ Receivers widely deployed
- Effective emergency warning systems needed

Thank you