

Regulation on the Centralized Issuance of Weather Forecasts and Warnings

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October 24, 1984;
February 27, 1992;
September 30, 1992;
April 12, 1995;
September 5, 2003;
May 18, 2007;
July 21, 2009
July 6, 2012

CHAPTER I GENERAL

Article 1

This Regulation is enacted in accordance with the terms in Paragraph 2 of Article 17, Meteorological Act.

Article 2

The terms used in this Regulation are defined as follows:

1. GENERAL WEATHER FORECASTS The nationwide weather forecasts exclusive of severe weather forecasts.
2. WARNINGS (ADVISORIES) The forecasts issued to warn of severe weather.
3. EARTHQUAKE REPORT A report on the result of seismological observation.
4. TSUNAMI WARNING A warning issued to draw the attention to the tsunami caused by an earthquake.
5. TSUNAMI REPORT A report on the result of tsunami observation.

Article 3

Forecasts and warnings of nationwide meteorological, seismological, and marine meteorological phenomena, except for the provisions enacted in the Meteorological Act, shall be centralized-issued by the Central Weather Bureau (hereinafter referred to as CWB). The affiliated agencies of the CWB may transfer the forecasts and warnings, and add items of local

attention.

Article 4

The warnings of the meteorological, seismological, and marine meteorological phenomena, and the severe weather forecasts disseminated by the news media shall be the information provided by the CWB.

Article 5

Central and local governments, agencies, organizations, and institutions shall take the responsibility for inner dissemination and coordination of the meteorological, seismological, and marine meteorological forecasts and/or warnings, and take the necessary responses.

Article 6

Should the occurrence of earthquake or tsunami phenomena can not be predicted in advance, the CWB shall issue a seismological report or a tsunami report soon after the phenomena occurred.

CHAPTER II FORECASTS

Article 7

Types of meteorological and marine meteorological forecasts are as follows:

1. General weather forecast;
2. Marine meteorological forecast;
3. Agro-meteorological forecast; and
4. Other meteorological forecast.

Article 8

The news media shall precisely disseminate information of the latest meteorological and marine meteorological forecasts in a timely way.

CHAPTER III WARNINGS, ADVISORIES, AND REPORTS

Article 9

Typhoons are divided into three categories as light, medium

and strong, according to the maximum sustained winds near the center. The criteria are as follows:

Typhoon Intensity	Maximum sustained winds near the center			
	m/s	km/hr	nm/hr	Beaufort Scale
Light	17.2~32.6	62~117	34~63	8~11
Medium	32.7~50.9	118~183	64~99	12~15
Strong	>51.0	>184	>100	16 and up

Article 10

The CWB shall issue information of a typhoon in a timely way, when it moved into the area of latitude 10~30 degrees North, and longitude 105~180 degrees East.

Article 11

Categories of typhoon warnings are as follows:

1. Sea warning: 24 hours prior to the time that the radius of winds over 50km/hr of a typhoon may invade the waters, of 100 km in distance, surrounding Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, or Matsu, the CWB shall issue a sea warning which specifies the water(s) to be invaded as the warning area(s); and then renew the warning every three (3) hours or renew it at any time when necessary.
2. Land warning: 18 hours prior to the time that the radius of winds over 50km/hr of a typhoon may invade the land area of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, or Matsu, the CWB shall issue a land warning which specifies the city(ies)/county(ies) to be invaded as the warning area(s); and then renew the warning every three (3) hours or renew it at any time when necessary. Wind and precipitation forecasts with respect to the land warning shall also be issued.

When a sea warning is issued while the radius of winds over 50km/hr of the typhoon may invade Ludaο and Lanyu, the warning area(s) shall include Ludaο and Lanyu.

In case a typhoon occurs around the nearby water of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, or Matsu, or there is a special change in the radius of near gale winds (Beaufort Scale 7), its moving speed, or the moving direction of a typhoon, the CWB may issue sea or land warning, or both of the sea warning and the land warning at the same time when necessary, exempting from the limitation of the subsections of Paragraph 1 of Article 11.

When the radius of near gale winds (Beaufort Scale 7) leave the land of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, or Matsu, the CWB shall terminate the land warning; when the radius of near gale winds (Beaufort Scale 7) leave the nearby waters of Taiwan, Penghu, Kinmen, or Matsu, the CWB shall terminate the sea warning; when the typhoon turns off or downgrades to a tropical depression, the CWB may terminate the typhoon warning directly.

Article 12

The central and local governments, or any government agency whichever would like to have typhoon warning information for hazard mitigation purpose, shall register to the CWB or its affiliated organization. Way(s) of providing warning information shall be settled mutually.

Article 13

Newspaper publishers nationwide shall report the newest typhoon warning information after a typhoon warning has been issued; radio stations and television stations, when receiving a sea warning of a typhoon, shall report it in the newsreel program and in the weather report secession, and make a special report at any time after receiving a land warning, until the land warning is terminated.

The coastal radio station upon receiving a sea warning or a land warning of a typhoon, shall broadcast it in accordance with the related international regulations.

Article 14

For weather phenomena that may cause live or property losses, such as heavy or torrential rain, lightning, hail, heavy fog, water spout or tornado, high winds, low temperatures, foehn, and drought, the CWB shall issue a severe weather warning or advisory and inform all the news media.

For the severe weather warning or advisory issued by the CWB, the news media as mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall disseminate it in a precise way, so that the relevant agencies and the general public can take preventive actions.

Article 15

When there is an earthquake, the CWB shall issue an earthquake report immediately. The ways of issuance are as follows: 1. Earthquake(s) of Intensity I to III (Scale of this country): the CWB shall inform the news media to report. 2. Earthquake(s) of Intensity IV and up (to Intensity VII): the CWB shall inform the news media to report, and in addition, inform the relevant agencies to take necessary actions.

The CWB may set up an emergency responding taskforce for dealing with reporting of disastrous earthquakes; relevant regulations are enacted by the CWB.

Article 16

When the CWB monitors a tsunami caused by an earthquake with wave height above 50 cm around the coastal area of this country, a tsunami report shall be issued immediately and be informed to the central emergency management authorities, relevant agencies, and the media, to take necessary actions.

Article 16-1

When the CWB judges a tsunami would arrive and influence the coastal area of this country, a tsunami warning shall be issued immediately with respect to different circumstances:

1. For tsunamis caused by distant earthquakes

When the CWB anticipates the tsunami would reach the coastal area in three hours, a tsunami warning shall be released and be reported to the central emergency

management authorities, relevant agencies, and the media, to urge the coastal residents to get ready for action.

2. For tsunamis caused by nearby earthquakes

When the CWB detects an along shore or coastal earthquake with a magnitude of 7.0 or above and a focal depth of 35 km or less, a tsunami warning shall be released and be reported to the central emergency management authorities, relevant agencies, and the media, to urge the coastal residents to get ready for action.

When the CWB judges that the tsunami threat has no more existed, a report on the termination of tsunami warning shall be issued accordingly.

CHAPTER IV SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS

Article 17

The CWB may in accordance with relevant provisions issue recognition and commendation to a news media and/or its faculty on the fact of its precise and timely dissemination of the forecasts and warnings issued by the CWB.

Article 18

This Regulation shall become effective on the date of promulgation.