



Submarine Escape & Rescue Working Group (SMERWG)

Cdr David Rich RN
SMERWG Chairman

Purpose of SMERWG



The **S**ub**M**arine **E**scape and **R**escue **W**orking **G**roup (**SMERWG**) was established by the NATO Standardisation Agency (NSA) under the Naval Board to develop common standards in equipment and procedures for submarine escape and rescue.

Purpose of SMERWG



To ensure that:

- Rescue forces can safely operate their equipment on DISSUB
- DISSUB personnel have the best chances of rescue

Who?

- NATO nations which operate submarines
- +
- Partner nations
- Permanent Observer Nations (Sponsored)
- Other nations – All to be invited
 - Mediterranean Dialogue (MD)
 - Partnership for Peace (PfP)
 - Istanbul Cooperation Initiative (ICI)
- Major NATO commands
- NATO agencies

Participation, how – who – what?



- Sponsor Nations are NATO Nations that are responsible for:
 - Invitations to sponsored Nations
 - Distribution of Outputs
 - Point of Contact between sponsored Nation and SMERWG
- **CAN/GBR/NLD/TUR/USA** are currently sponsor Nations

Sub Panels

SMERWG currently has 3 Sub-Panels

- **Operations Panel (Ops)**

- Rescue Operations >> procedures, equipment, C2
- Intervention Operations >> procedures, equipment, C2
 - ROV
 - ADS

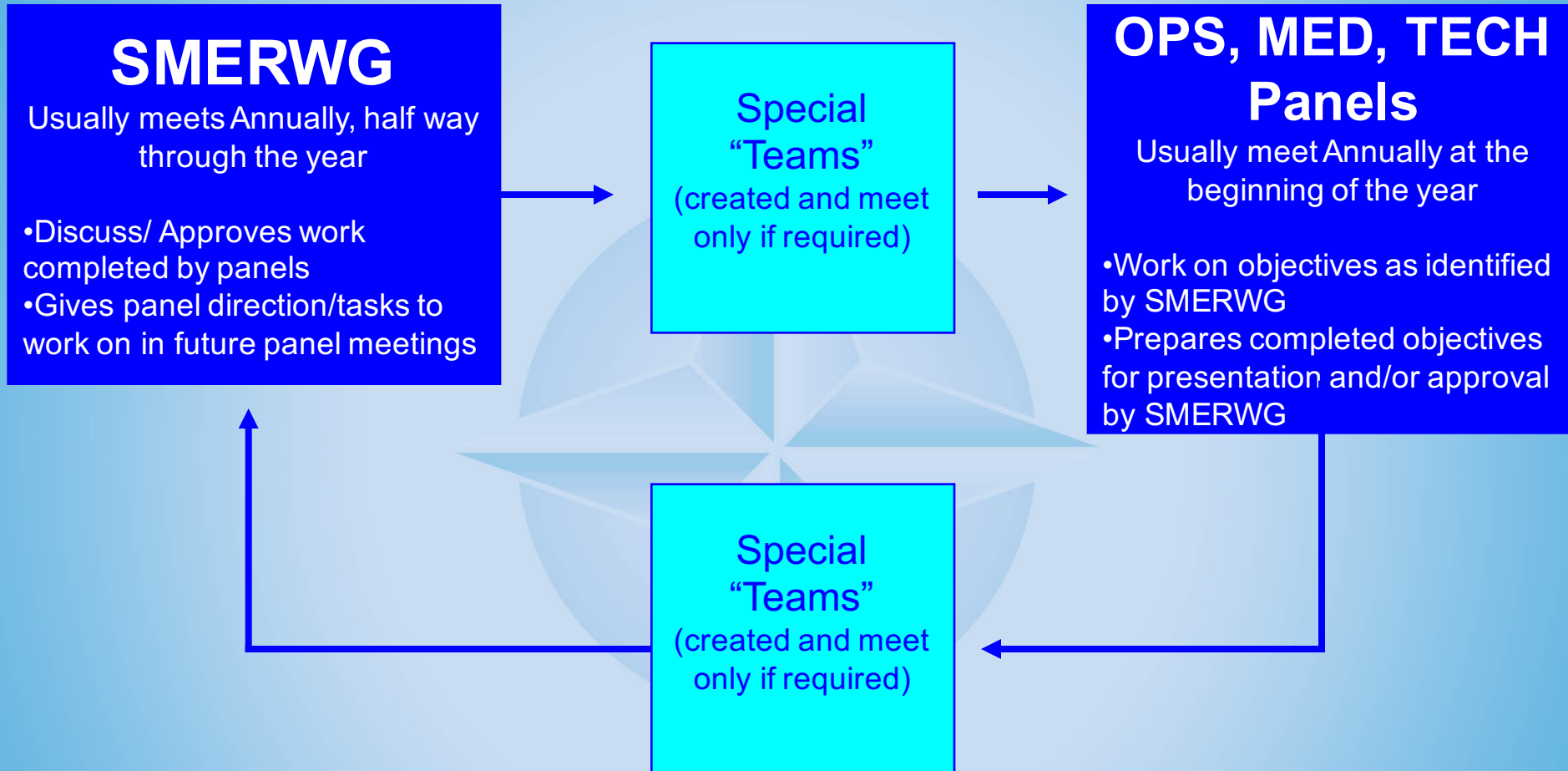
- **Medical Panel**

Medical issues >> escape, rescue, survivability (DISSUB & Surface)

- **Technical Panel**

- Previously Submarine Escape Equipment Panel (SEE)
- Equipment related to rescue, escape and escape towers
- Surface Abandonment

SMERWG & Sub Panels



Note: Teams are usually formed as an exception for special requirements

OUTPUTS

- ISMERLO Website
- NSO Website
- Standards Publications and Manuals
 - STANAGS
- Written Reports & Presentations to Maritime Board
- SMER Network building

SMERWG 17/18



PRIORITIES 17/18

- The **OPS Panel** will progress on:
 - Development of common DISSUB search procedures;
 - Inclusion of targeted SMER systems and procedures in OPEVAL of NATO and national exercises;
 - Evaluate options and draft requirements for at sea communication between military and commercial vessels during SUBSAR ops
 - Continue to validate and track lessons learned.

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PRIORITIES 17/18

- The **MED Panel** will progress on:
 - Implementation of End to End Casualty tracking
 - Develop and Upload SMER Medical training Scenarios to ISMERLO; awaiting new website

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PRIORITIES 17/18

- The **TECH Panel** will progress on:
 - Assess onboard survivability endurance versus TTFR
 - Expand knowledge of Escape and Rescue from DISSUB lying at an angle
 - Determine the proper standards for 'Red Flares'
 - Determine issues with H2 build up in a DISSUB and resulting actions required

When?

Submarine Escape and Rescue Working Group (SMERWG)

Amsterdam (NLD) 15 – 18 May 18

Panel Meetings

Operations Panel (OPS)

6 – 8 Feb 18

Medical Panel (MED)

Garmisch (Deu)

Technical Panel (TECH)



QUESTIONS?