

# **The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction**

## **Information note for participants**

### **Open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction: Informal consultations of the Chair**

**10 – 11 October 2016  
Room XXV, Palais des Nations, Geneva**

#### **I. Introduction**

In its resolution 69/284 of 3 June 2015, the General Assembly established an open-ended intergovernmental expert working group (OIEWG) on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction to develop indicators to measure global progress on the seven agreed targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The Working Group would also consider an update of disaster risk reduction terminology.

The second session was held in Geneva from 10-11 February 2016, with negotiations advancing towards convergence on a number of indicators. The outcome of these negotiations are reflected in two working texts on indicators and terminology. During the session, the Working Group identified a number of indicators for further work by the Secretariat and agreed that the Chair would convene informal consultations with Geneva-based delegates to advance the work in the inter-sessional period.

The Secretariat duly prepared and circulated two technical non-papers on DRR terminology and indicators on 10 June for consideration during the first round of the chair's informal consultations held in Geneva on 20-21 June 2016. The Permanent Mission of Japan additionally briefed countries on the results of a feasibility assessment of proposed indicators for global targets A-D for the Sendai Framework, using existing disaster damage statistics in Japan, and invited countries to participate in a feasibility exercise on the proposed indicators. The report of the informal consultations was circulated on 4 August 2016.

A number of countries have since participated in the feasibility exercise proposed by Japan and the Secretariat has updated its technical non-papers on DRR terminology and indicators in line with the recommendations from the consultation participants to provide suggestions to further rationalize and streamline the work on indicators and terminology.

The second round of informal consultations on 10-11 October 2016 will build on the constructive discussions undertaken during the Chair's informal consultations held on 20-21 June 2016, receive briefings on and consider the updated technical non-papers prepared by the Secretariat and will also receive an update from Japan on the findings of the feasibility exercise.

#### **II. Purpose**

The consultations will seek to bring further clarity on central issues and build consensus around possible landing zones on core and critical indicators and relevant terminology. The intent will be to maximise efforts towards a final push during the Third Session which will be held from 14-18 November 2016, to adopt indicators that befit the mandate given to the Working Group by the General Assembly.

No decisions or amendments to the working texts on indicators and terminology developed at the Second Session will be taken during the informal consultations. However, progress made will be recorded and reported to the Third Session, with a view to advancing relevant decisions of the session.

### III. Programme

#### **Informal Consultation of the Chair: Indicators for the seven global targets of the Sendai Framework (Monday, 10 October 2016)**

**Purpose and nature of consultations:** Opening remarks by the Chair on the state of progress on indicator development, followed by presentation on the feasibility exercises and a briefing on the updated technical non-paper on indicators prepared at the request of experts. Informal consultations will subsequently commence on indicators for Targets A through G in alphabetical order. Discussions will focus on consensus-building on possible landing zones on core and critical indicators for these targets.

The informal consultations will be preceded by a lunch-time briefing by the Permanent Mission of Japan on the findings of the feasibility exercise conducted with countries.

<b>Lunchtime briefing by Permanent Mission of Japan</b>		
1.15 pm - 2.30 pm	Briefing by the Permanent Mission of Japan on the findings of a feasibility exercise conducted with countries on proposed indicators for global targets A -D of the Sendai Framework	Permanent Mission of Japan

<b>Informal consultations of the Chair</b>		
2.45 pm - 2.50 pm	Opening remarks of the Chair on indicators for the seven global targets of the Sendai Framework	Chair
2.50 pm - 3.10 pm	Presentation and exchanges on the findings of feasibility exercise conducted by Japan with participating countries.	Permanent Mission of Japan
3.10 pm - 3.25 pm	Briefing by the Secretariat on its updated technical non-paper on indicators, including the Secretariat's recommendations for proposed indicators to measure the global targets and outstanding issues	Briefings by Secretariat
3.25 pm - 5.50 pm	Interactive discussions with delegates on proposed indicators for Targets A through G of the Sendai Framework - Brief presentation by friends of the Chair on 10+10 consultations on proposed target F indicators	Discussions moderated by Chair
5.50 pm - 6.00 pm	Summary of discussions and key issues to take forward into the Third Session	Secretariat

#### **Informal Consultation of the Chair: DRR Terminology (Tuesday, 11 October 2016)**

**Purpose and nature of consultations:** Following opening remarks by the Chair on the state of progress on terminology development and a briefing by the Secretariat on an updated technical non-paper outlining terms and definitions recommended by the Secretariat for final adoption as well as terms proposed for removal with corresponding justification, informal consultations will be undertaken on the contested terms and the recommendations to address them. Discussions will focus on consensus-building on possible landing zones on these terms.

<b>Informal Consultation of the Chair</b>		
3.00 pm - 3.10 pm	Opening remarks of the Chair on DRR terminology	Chair
3.10 pm - 3.30 pm	Briefing by the Secretariat on its updated technical non-paper on terminology, including its recommendations on terms and definitions for inclusion and removal	Briefing by Secretariat
3.30 pm - 5.50 pm	Interactive discussions with delegates on contested DRR Terminology	Discussions moderated by Chair
5.50 pm - 6.00 pm	Summary of discussions and key issues to take forward into inter-sessional work and the Third session	Chair

#### **IV. Participation**

Participation is open to all delegates from the Permanent Missions of countries in Geneva and New York. UN system entities may be present to provide technical advice, as need may arise. Given the informal nature of the consultations, in-person participation of experts from national capitals is not anticipated.

Delegates from the Permanent Missions of countries in New York and nominated experts from countries who wish to participate remotely via WebEx, should confirm their participation in writing by sending an email from their professional email account conveying their full name, professional title and email address to [DRR.working.group@un.org](mailto:DRR.working.group@un.org) by 6 October 2016.

Other Stakeholders already registered who wish to contribute to the informal consultations may send their written inputs via email to [DRR.working.group-others@un.org](mailto:DRR.working.group-others@un.org) by 6 October 2016.

#### **V. Arrangements for meetings**

##### **a. Languages and interpretation**

Consultations will be the conducted entirely in English and interpretation will not be available.

##### **b. Distribution of documents**

To support greening efforts, hard copies of documentation will not be available in the meeting room. Participants are encouraged to download (and print if needed) all meeting related documentation from the webpage of the Working Group:

<http://www.preventionweb.net/drr-framework/open-ended-working-group/>

##### **c. Access to UNOG premises**

Participating delegates requiring a grounds pass for the UNOG premises should send a written request to [DRR.working.group@un.org](mailto:DRR.working.group@un.org) with the full name, professional designation, contact email and phone number of the participant. All requests should be conveyed through the relevant Permanent Mission in Geneva or New York. To allow for timely processing, requests should be sent no later than COB Thursday, 6 October 2016.