

**Fourth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
Incheon, Republic of Korea, 25-28 October 2010**

Incheon Declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction in Asia and the Pacific 2010

We, the Heads of Governments, the Ministers, and the Heads of Delegations of the countries of Asia and the Pacific, attending the Fourth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) in Incheon, Republic of Korea, on 25-28 October 2010;

Alarmed by the increasing impact of disasters in Asia and the Pacific in the past two years, including Cyclone Aila in Bangladesh, Bhutan and India, Typhoon Morakot in Taiwan Province of China, back-to-back Typhoons Ketsana and Parma in the Philippines, Viet Nam, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Cambodia, the earthquake in Padang, Indonesia, the earthquake in Samoa and Tonga and the subsequent tsunami disaster in the Pacific, Tropical Cyclones Mick and Thomas in Fiji, Tropical Cyclone Pat in Cooks Islands, the Gaua Volcanic Eruption in Vanuatu, the heat waves and rampant wildfires in Australia and the Russian Federation, the "dzud" in Mongolia, the earthquake in Qinghai Province in China, the floods and landslides in Pakistan, China, India and Bhutan, the cloudburst in India and Glacial Lake Outburst Floods in Nepal and Bhutan, the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand, and most recently the earthquake and tsunami in Mentawai, Indonesia;

Noting the Chair's Summary of the Second Session of the Global Platform, which highlights that climate change is already dramatically magnifying the disaster risks threatening many developing nations and especially the very existence of certain small island developing States, and which recognised that addressing the underlying causes of disaster risk therefore offers the potential for a 'triple win' -- for disaster risk reduction (DRR), climate change adaptation (CCA), and poverty reduction;

Realizing the need to scale up commitments, including technical and financial assistance from donor countries and international organizations, and to promote innovative approaches to reduce disaster risk to achieve the goals of both the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 – 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA), and the Millennium Development Goals (MDG);

Recognizing the need to protect women, children and other vulnerable groups from the disproportionate impacts of disaster and to empower them to promote resiliency within their communities and workplaces;

Considering recent global and regional developments, which are expected to further the course of DRR in Asia and the Pacific, such as the ratification and entry into force of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER); the cooperation in the area of disaster risk management by the annual Trilateral Meeting of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea; the recent elevation of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Emergency Preparedness Working Group, the outcomes of the Pacific Platform for DRM, and the climate-related disasters initiative adopted at the 16th SAARC Summit.

Recognizing that DRR financing mechanisms are emerging as an integral component of the evolving global financing architecture for climate change adaptation at the regional, national, and sub-national levels;

Recognizing the leadership of the Governments of People's Republic of China, India and Malaysia in hosting the First, Second and Third AMCDRR including the implementation by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Asia Partnership on Disaster Risk Reduction (IAP) of the activities called for by the Beijing Declaration 2005, the Delhi Declaration 2007, and the Kuala Lumpur Declaration 2008;

Reaffirming the commitment on the HFA Implementation Regional Action Plan 2009-2015 to implement the above mentioned Ministerial Declarations;

Recognizing the responsibility of governments to reduce disaster risks and the need for support from key stakeholders including international, regional, and national organizations, National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, and civil society organisations and their networks to ensure appropriate implementation of the recommendations of AMCDRR;

Appreciating the theme and objectives of the Fourth AMCDRR: "Disaster Risk Reduction through Climate Change Adaptation" and the messages of the Ministerial Statements;

DO HEREBY call on various DRR stakeholders:

On raising awareness and building capacity for DRR and CCA: To improve understanding of DRR as delivering evidence-based adaptation actions and strengthen knowledge on climate hazards, vulnerabilities, and risks in key socio-ecological system; to promote and support DRR and CCA training for government and other stakeholders; to implement awareness-raising programmes at all levels on the costs and benefits of CCA options and those provided by ecosystem services for DRR and CCA; to develop a strong communication plan on national priorities on DRR and CCA to be reached out to governments at sub-national and local level including cities; to promote awareness of DRR and CCA for development stakeholders and communities at risk; to promote multi-hazard risk assessments and capacities in local settlements; to build capacity on identifying and protecting local natural ecosystems recognizing their importance as buffers to climate change risks; to strengthen education and training programmes for DRR and CCA focal persons; to promote and facilitate the funding of joint DRR and CCA projects from existing and new funding sources; and to promote child-and-people-centered education for community preparedness and risk reduction;

On developing and sharing information, technology, sound practices, and lessons learned in climate and disaster risk management: To collect sound practices and lessons learned in DRR and CCA; to develop a platform for sharing information, technologies and sound practices in DRR and CCA; to promote sharing early warning information and systems through strengthening existing mechanisms; to collect, analyze and share information on emerging risks and vulnerability; to increase availability of user-friendly climate information at all scales for community action; to conduct harmonized regional and sub-regional high-level meetings to share experiences and promote integration of DRR and CCA; and to use South-South cooperation, including triangular, among countries of the Asia and the Pacific region.

On promoting integration of DRR and CCA into development for green growth: To promote the adoption of standard hazard profiles for use by all national and regional stakeholders in development planning processes; to promote integration of DRR and CCA in urban development, land use planning and physical planning; to promote the increased investments on DRR and CCA; to implement joint DRR and CCA projects in selected countries for selected development sectors promoted by partners; to promote integration of DRR and CCA into development processes; to promote the decoupling of the increase of disaster exposure from economic growth; to promote with local governments the incorporation of risk reduction in planning and zoning regulations, building regulations especially for communities at highest level of exposure; and to initiate development of guidelines for policymakers for integrating DRR and CCA into development, and to enhance linkages between DRR and CCA institutions at the national level.

On the remaining five years of the HFA: To urge all actors to implement HFA in line with the five priorities for action and identify practical measures to increase commitment, resourcing, and efforts in its further implementation; to urge States and regional organizations to explore and implement adjustment of directions and priorities needed to take up new opportunities for disaster risk reduction in relation to climate change; and to focus on key deliverables that would make the biggest impact during the remaining period of the HFA.

On promoting investments on DRR and CCA: To build capacities to track DRR investments; to evaluate financial and economic costs and benefits of DRR to promote greater investments in reducing disasters in the region; to promote comprehensive preparedness planning to mitigate the impacts of disasters; to strengthen governance structures and advocate the international donor community to increase its funding support for regional and national activities for DRR and HFA implementation; to apportion at least 10 percent of humanitarian assistance and two percent of development assistance for DRR by 2015; and for developed countries to offer their support to developing countries of financial resources, technology transfer and capacity building.

On promoting resilient cities: To promote local implementation of the HFA by way of encouraging cities and local governments to sign up for the global campaign - “Making Cities Resilient- My city is getting ready!”; to carry out risk assessments, engage and empower local citizens and citizen groups with necessary knowledge and awareness on risks; to encourage innovations in building resilience at neighbourhood level including schools and hospitals; to commit resources for land-use and infrastructure planning; to apply and enforce regulations that incorporate DRR and CCA considerations; to put in place emergency measures, develop pre-disaster recovery planning protocols; and to monitor progress regularly on achievements made against commitments.

DO HEREBY:

Invite the National Emergency Management Agency, Republic of Korea (NEMA, Republic of Korea), as the host of the Fourth AMCDRR, in coordination with the Asia and Pacific regional office of the UNISDR (UNISDR AP) and members of the IAP to carry the messages in this Declaration to the Third Session of the Global Platform on DRR, in May 2011 and beyond;

Encourage NEMA, Republic of Korea, UNISDR AP and members of IAP to promote, wherever appropriate, DRR as an integral component of adaptation efforts in regional and international fora leading to the 16th Conference of Parties (COP16) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the 6th Conference of Parties (COP6) of the Kyoto Protocol, Cancun, Mexico, in December 2010 and beyond, as suggested in the Bali Action Plan;

Consider the recommendations from this Declaration, where appropriate, within existing policies, strategies and action plans for effectively mainstreaming DRR and CCA into development and report their implementation as well as earlier Declarations at the Fifth AMCDRR in 2012;

Call on international organisations and regional institutions to provide technical, operational and programmatic supports to accelerate the implementation of the HFA in Asia and the Pacific countries, especially the national action plans on DRR;

Call on regional inter-governmental bodies and regional institutions to consider contributing through their existing forums the follow-up of the AMCDRR ministerial Declarations and the preparation for future AMCDRRs;

Welcome the Incheon Regional Roadmap on DRR through CCA in Asia and the Pacific (Incheon REMAP), attached as Annex 1, and the Action Plan for the Incheon REMAP, attached as Annex 2, to achieve the goals of this Declaration, and invite NEMA, Republic of Korea and UNISDR AP in collaboration with members of the IAP to finalize the Action Plan for the Incheon REMAP by the end of March 2011, and call on donors to support the implementation of the Incheon REMAP and Action Plan;

We, the Heads of Governments, the Ministers, and the Heads of Delegations of the countries of Asia and the Pacific, attending the Fourth AMCDRR, and on behalf of all participants, place on record our sincere gratitude and high appreciation to the Government and people of the Republic of Korea for their gracious hospitality in hosting and organising the Conference and welcome the offer of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia to host the Fifth AMCDRR in 2012.

ADOPTED in Incheon on the 28th October in the year 2010.

Annex 1 - The Incheon Regional Roadmap on DRR through CCA in Asia and the Pacific (Incheon REMAP)

Annex 2 - Action Plan for the Incheon REMAP.

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