

STATEMENT BY MR.T.DULAMDORJ, CHIEFOF
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AT THE “FOURTH SESSION OF THE GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION”

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Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates of the Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction! Ladies and Gentlemen!

It is been 2 years since we addressed the issue of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national development policy and programs and increasing investment in local action under the important theme of “Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow” at the 3rd Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, attended by 2,600 delegates from all over the world.

In the 2 years since then, the Government of Mongolia has taken great efforts to give effect to the decisions of that session.

In the framework of the Millennium Development Goals based Comprehensive National Development Strategy, the Government of Mongolia has launched and is implementing national programs such as the “Water Program”, the “National Action Program for Combating Desertification”, and the “Mongolian National Livestock Program,” incorporating disaster risk reduction activities into land use planning, natural resource management and climate change adaptation policy and planning.

In particular, the recently approved “State Policy on Disaster Protection and Program of Implementation” demonstrated the high level of attention the Government of Mongolia has given to these issues, especially in a time of the increasing frequency of natural disasters, and the consequences of natural and ecological imbalances as well as climate change.

Within this policy document, we planned and implemented activities to ensure the sustainable development of our society and economy through strengthening our disaster management capacity, reducing the vulnerability of the population, and encouraging the involvement of national and local government organizations, professional services, private entities and local communities in disaster protection activities.

For instance, the Emergency Management School has been established next to the University of the Law Enforcement to prepare qualified personnel for the National Emergency Management Service. The state investment allocated for updating our techniques and equipment has been gradually increased.

The project “Earthquake Early Warning System” is being implemented by the State with the objective of applying modern information and communication technologies to prevent and reduce the loss from natural disasters and establish an “Early Warning and Operational Center”.

Risk assessment methodology has been developed and disaster risks of Ulaanbaatar and some provinces have been assessed through joint projects of the National Emergency Management Agency, the Science and Technological Fund, the UNDP and JICA. The collaboration of the National Emergency Management Agency, the Ulaanbaatar Governor’s Office, the Academy of Science and other relevant agencies in these activities have played the important role in encouraging the involvement of governmental organizations in disaster prevention and risk reduction and enhancing their partnership.

A series of training on “Safe Living” was organized in cooperation with local entities and media as part of efforts on raising awareness, educating local communities and supporting their disaster risk reduction activities.

In previous years, more than 40 herder groups aiming to reduce disaster risks and implement community-based disaster management initiatives have been established, enrolling over 600 herders from 300 households. As a result of offered micro-credit opportunities, herder groups have created joint disaster risk funds, which significantly strengthen their disaster risk reduction and response capacity as well as raising their livelihood by between 10 and 50 percent.

As disaster risk reduction and investment of relevant initiatives protect lives and livelihoods, public assets, environment and private property, our future actions will be focused on accelerating the implementation of the priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action and the decision of the Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction with the theme of “Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow” and “Resilient People - Resilient Planet”.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to wish more successes for your humanitarian activities to save the lives.

Thank you for your attention.