



**Statement of Voluntary Commitments of Children, Youth and Child-Centered Organizations  
Stakeholder Group for the 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction**

**22- 26 June 2014**

**Bangkok, Thailand**

The Children, Youth, and Child-centered Organizations consist of two major coalitions: the Children in a Changing Climate Coalition (CCCC) and the Asian Coalition for School Safety (ACSS). The CCCC which was established in 2007 consists of leading child-centered development and humanitarian organizations that include Plan International, Save the Children, UNICEF and World Vision. On the other hand, ACSS which was set up in 2012 was founded by ADPC, IFRC, Plan International, Save the Children, UNESCO, and UNICEF.

UNESCAP indicates that 60% of the world's youth population, which is 750 million young people aged 15-24, are in Asia Pacific. The region is the most hazard-prone in the world, where children are disproportionately affected by disasters. It is also predicted to be one of the most affected regions by the projected impacts of climate change. Children and youth are especially vulnerable in disaster situations and face particular risks to their health, psychosocial well-being, protection, access to education as well as nutrition. Predictions suggest that globally by 2015 more than 175 million children will be affected by weather-related disasters every year. Already, the 2011 Global Assessment Report (GAR) confirms that disasters impact significantly and negatively on child welfare, with estimates of at least 66 million children affected by both extensive and intensive disasters.

Since the first Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2007, child-centered agencies have worked together to raise the profile of children and youth both as those affected by disasters and as agents for change in risk reduction and resilience building. The Children's Charter for DRR, developed and endorsed by more than 1,200 children around the world was launched at the UNISDR's Global Platform for DRR in 2011. The charter consists of the children's five priorities for DRR which include safe schools; child protection; information and participation; safe community infrastructure and 'building back better, safer and fairer'; and reaching the most vulnerable.

The regional collaboration in the Children in a Changing Climate Coalition began in 2011 and gathered momentum in preparation for AMCDRR 5 in 2012.

Key targets for inclusion in HFA2 being advocated by this Stakeholder's Group are:

- I. Equity and accountability: All targets under the HFA2 are achieved for all girls and boys of different age groups, ethnicity and abilities
- II. Access to basic social services and productive assets: Increase access by risk prone households to quality social services, including education; health; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); and protection
- III. Education: No child dies due to disaster in a school built or modified after 2015; and number of school days missed as a result of shocks or stresses is reduced by 50%.
- IV. Child protection: The number of children living outside family care as a result of shocks and stresses is reduced by 50%.
- V. Child Participation: Children are supported to meaningfully participate in local level DRR and development planning processes.

To contribute towards the realization of these targets, the Stakeholder's group is committed towards:

- I. Expanding programs and areas for implementing child and youth centered DRR and CCA;
- II. Dissemination of research and hosting of events and advocating with governments for the inclusion and meaningful participation of children and youth in DRR and policy development, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes;
- III. Creating a space at the regional level for discussion and sharing of technical resources, good practices/lessons learned and model policies on safe schools to minimize the impacts of disasters to children's education;
- IV. Coordinating and promoting the adoption, development and implementation of the Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF).

Specifically, this group has been focusing on the following work areas:

- Meaningful participation of children and youth in DRR and policy development, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation Processes
- Child and youth centered risk assessment to inform programs and policy decisions
- Safe Schools guided by the Comprehensive School Safety Framework (CSSF)
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Urban DRR
- Mainstreaming DRR and CCA in development and resilience programming