**Fourth Session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk reduction.19th May To 23rdMay2013, Geneva**

Statement of Nature & Life Savers Association, the Community Risk Reduction Module Initiative, on Disaster Risk Reduction through Community

Many organizations, institutions and people are developing training module on particular field of disaster management. **Nature & Life Savers** is working in western Himalayas in the field of disaster management. People are dealing with natural calamities like cloud burst, avalanche, land slide, major road accidents, earth quake, flash flood, fire etc. without having adequate knowledge and expertise in these matters. **Nature & Life Savers Association** organized a team of professionals and experts from the community who are willing to serve the community by devoting their valuable time and energy.

**Nature & Life Savers Association** is working on community based disaster management in the Himalayan region. One of the active members of the association who has been working on community based disaster mitigation training module which was devised by the Govt. of India as well as United Nations has been able to come up with the positive results.

Nature & Life savers requests the Global Platform team to focus on community based practical training programme for further exhaustive training to the already trained community persons. The association is running all activities as per the prescribed syllabus from National Institute of Disaster Management/UNDP.

The aim of the association focuses on community training where the community is self prepared, hence chances of loss to life are minimized. If the **Association** gets support from the Government it can run more such training activities in this field of disaster management and prepare more persons who can be of help in the community at the time of emergency.

Your efforts to include practical training in the field of disaster management are highly appreciable. However practical training is required at national level. This will generate employment by deploying trainers also. This will further propagate the ability & efficiency of the community at the time of occurrence of natural calamity. Hitherto, the Govt. at national level has been able to impart only academic knowledge but the practical field remains hardly touched or partly imparted. It requires more attention to impart training in the practical field. This can be done by including Practical Disaster Management Training in the curriculum schools and Institutes of Higher Education.

The practical knowledge can be propagated in this way combining Academic knowledge with Practical Knowledge among the people. The community as a whole can be trained in this way on a large scale to face disaster at the time of emergency in the region.

**Nature & Life Savers Association is** endeavoring to spread knowledge by recognizing the methods adopted by local people using the locally available material to cope with such disasters so that youngsters, both male & female, can play effective role to deal with such unforeseen calamities.

**Nature & Life Savers Association** strongly believes that investing time in community based disaster mitigation Programs will make a major contribution to the community by imparting sustainable employment for the well trained youth and substantially reducing disaster related losses.This requires both long term commitment and political will to address Disaster Risk reduction in an integrated manner.