



Statement of the Iranian Construction Engineering Organization (Khorasan Razavi Province) in the Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 May 2013

((In the name of God the compassionate and the merciful))

Excellencies, Heads of Delegations, Distinguished Guests and Participants;

It is my privilege to be with the distinguished participants from across the globe at this 4th Session of Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. The Platform provides not only a forum to the comity of nations to renew their commitment to make the world safer from disasters but also provides valuable opportunity for cross fertilization of ideas and sharing of experiences to evolve better strategies that would help reduce risks faced by vulnerable communities across the globe. I am pleased to be part of this forum and congratulate to Mrs. Wahlstrom and the UNISDR team for their preparations of the conference, and more broadly, for UNISDR's work in 2012.

Mrs. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Iranian Construction engineering organization (Khorasan Razavi Province) is one of the biggest specialized NGOs in Iran with more than 20000 engineers in 7 engineering fields and it is responsible in building construction activities. The main responsibilities of this organization in compliance with the implementation of Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) are:

- Supervising urban and rural constructions. It has been conducted in order to protect people as well as to preserve and increase the efficiency of energy resources.
- Developing national cultures and values in architecture and urbanization.
- Providing the conditions of growth and improvement of engineering in the country.
- Propagating principles of architecture and urbanization, also increasing public awareness.

- Organizing and attracting cooperation of professionals and building guilds in order to provide and conduct developmental plans of the country.

It is another source of pride for us to have close cooperation with international organizations working in DRR issue, our neighbor countries in our region and our brother and friendly countries all across the world.

Dear Delegates,

Now, the outcome of all attempts of construction engineering organization of Khorasan Razavi has created assurance and leisure for the people through fulfilling regulations completely. In addition, important and successful programs such as upgrading codes and regulations of constructions to prevent disasters, retrofitting vulnerable buildings, development of disaster risk identification, assessment capacities and enhancement of hazard monitoring as well as disaster preparedness and response are initiated.

Having adopted the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in 2005, disaster risk reduction becomes a priority for our organization. Nevertheless there is urgent need to fill the gaps in education and professional qualification of the staff that are responsible for introducing DRR in their respective areas. To improve the general perception of disaster risk reduction it is important to deal with problems like shortage of internal financing, low realization of long-term economic advantages of investing in risk reduction over response and recovery, and continuing reliance on external assistance and relief programs.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It takes decades to build, but it takes seconds to destroy as a consequence of disaster. We need to work together to reduce the impact of disasters. The Global Platform is one of those avenues which provide us the opportunity to sit together, share ideas and develop viable strategies to make humanity safer and resilient against the disasters. I hope that this Fourth Session of Global Platform will go a long way in fostering closer relationships amongst the nations with a renewed commitment from them to fight disasters together.

Thank you for your attention.

Engineer Mohammadreza Akhavan Abdollahian,

President of Iranian Construction Engineering Organization (Khorasan Razavi Province)