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HFA

I would like to update the achievement of Myanmar on National HFA implementation for 2009-2011, and 2011-2013. The self-assessment report of HFA Progress Monitor notes that the country has been progressed in many areas with mixed results of Score 2 and 3 relatively at the same level as many of its peers in the region.

- I would like to present the Notable Achievement of the HFA priorities Areas;

Under Priority Area 1:

- In order to achieve the National goal, Myanmar Action Plan on Disaster Risk Reduction (MAPDRR) was updated and endorsed in June 2012.

Natural Disaster Management Law has been enacted on 31 July 2013 by H.E. President. The Law provides legal provisions for implementation of disaster risk reduction activities systematically and expeditiously, to conserve and restore the environment and to provide health, education, social and livelihood programmes in order to bring about better living conditions for the victims. Through a consultative process in Development Partners and Civil Service Organizations have been engaged in, drafting the rules and regulations and is currently awaiting promulgation.

National Disaster Preparedness Central Committee was reconstituted in May 2013 chaired by the Vice President is the apex body on disaster risk reduction supported by Working Committees and Sub-Committees., the Standing Order for Disaster Management is now being updated.

- In line with decentralization and planning process, the local governments and communities are being empowered to take a proactive role in DRR

Priority Area 2:

Multi Hazard Risk Assessment in Rakhine State and Ayeyarwaddy, Bago, Yangon has been developed to map out and to assess full range of vulnerabilities of the exposed elements at risks to identify programming gaps and opportunities

Seismic Zoning map for Myanmar has been updated in 2012 and City level earthquake risk maps are developed for Bago, Taungoo, Sagaing and Mandalay City and Yangon is being planned.

The government is in the process of establishing National Disaster Loss and Damage Database system to generate risk information to inform decision-making and planning at national and sub-national levels

To facilitate a systematic response to save both lives and livelihoods of the vulnerable populations, multi-hazard end-to-end early warning system is being established. Thanks to the effort over the years, the Government and communities responded swiftly during Cyclone Mahasen in May 2013 with the warning. Addressing the need for better coordination, Relief and Resettlement department is in the process of establishing the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) to support for emergency management, response and logistic as well as platform for information sharing. **There is a need to continuously invest and upgrade in end-to-end early warning systems and we need more support from International agencies to upgrade our systems.**

Priority Area 3:

Government along with its partners has been scaling up its efforts to improve the knowledge of stakeholders and communities through various means such as IEC Materials, Life Skills Subject in School Education, Mass Awareness programme, commemorating IDRR. Recently, the Relief and Resettlement Department has incorporated “Dos and don’ts for Disaster into Student’s Exercise Books” so that it can create a culture of safety in the young minds.

The Relief and Resettlement Department with the support from DRR WG has updated the Disaster Management Course curriculum and have trained over the last two years. Recognizing the importance of capacity development, the Government has

approved the establishment of National Disaster Management Training Centre in Ayeyarwaddy region. The Center which is under construction aims to build the capacity of Government officials and the communities in building resilience. **Given the limited experience and resources, I would like to request the Development Partners and Interested agencies to extend support in this endeavor.**

Priority Area 4:

Recognizing the importance of vulnerability reduction to manage disaster risk and also the opportunity posed by the ongoing reform process, the Government is currently working on Mainstreaming DRR issues into development planning process.

- It has also enacted the Environmental Conservation Law in 2012 and it has developed guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment.

It is also developing framework and mechanism for safer settlements through land use planning and building codes and certification process for carpenters and other construction trades to address disaster risks.

Priority Area 5:

- In line with the Disaster Management Law, Disaster Management Committee, Working Committee and Sub-Committees are constituted at all levels.
- Government is actively promoting Disaster Response Drills and Simulation Exercise at all levels and also participates at Regional level as part of AADMER.

Recently, the Government has embarked on DRR Youth Volunteer programme providing DRR related Training of Trainers (TOT) for young representatives from Ayeyarwaddy Region. Those young volunteer will be serving as a leader of community disaster management committee then to become a change agent who can promote the necessary change in behaviors. It plans to scale up the initiatives.

- The Government has allocated 100 Billion Kyats for emergency response.

The Key Priority Areas for HFA2 identified by Myanmar

The National Consultation Workshop on HFA 2 was organized by Relief and Resettlement Department by the co-facilitation of Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, Myanmar to identify what Myanmar wants to contribute to HFA2 and the following key priority areas

can be identified:

Building community resilience- turning vulnerability into resilience

Sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction integration

Reduction exposure/ underlying risk factors and key area

Strengthening risk governance and accountability

- Let me highlight Myanmar's Endeavour on DRR by launching the new programme nation-wide.

The Government of Myanmar has launched the Disaster Reduction Youth Volunteers Programme aiming to nurture the communities who have the DRR Knowledge so as to be resilient to the natural disasters.

- The Capacity Building Trainings for youth volunteers are now underway.
- And they will become the motivators and organizers of their communities for DRR.
- I would like to point out some weak points to get the HFA2 implementation in Myanmar.

Although we used to say that the Disaster Risk Reduction is everyone's business, we still need to advocate to some High Level Policy Makers, Politicians and the private sectors in Myanmar.

- The inclusiveness of multi-stakeholder is very crucial for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience of the Country.
- And there is still a gap to secure participation of the different stakeholders for DRR measures.
- Local Institutions need to be strengthened to take a lead role in Disaster Risk Management and identify means to scale up CBDRM in the vulnerable communities.
- Thank you.