Abdurahimov Kh.S. Chairman of the Committee on ES and CD under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

Presentation

of the Republic of Tajikistan at the Third Global Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, March 14-18, 2015, Sendai, Japan

Dear Chairman,

Dear participants of the Third Global Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome you at this important international event dedicated to solving global tasks in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction.

Allow me to express a gratitude on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan the Secretary General of the United Nations mister Ban Ki-moon, the Government of Japan and Steering Committee for the invitation of the delegation of Tajikistan and opportunity to participate at the Third Global Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction that collected a large number of participants presenting delegations of the member states of the United Nations Organization.

Undoubtedly, the "Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015" became one of the most effective attempts of the international community to formulate the existing problems in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction, consolidate possible solutions and develop clear recommendations for the member countries - participants of the Conference.

Tajikistan, as a member country of the Second Global Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Kobe, has consistently implemented recommendations of the "Hyogo Framework for Action."

For example, in 2010 the Government of Tajikistan has approved its "National Strategy on Disaster Risk Management for 2010-2015", which includes the main recommendations" of the "Hyogo Framework for Action" and determines the main directions of the development policy of the country towards Disaster Risk Reduction.

In this context, the Government of Tajikistan pays particular attention to the integration of Disaster Risk Reduction into the projects and programs of social and economic development of the country.

Establishment of the National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2012 in Tajikistan, chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister of the country was one of the important steps in the course of implementation of measures of the "Hyogo Framework for Action". The Single State System on prevention and liquidation of emergency situations has been improved within the frame of this Platform.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen! As you know, due to the special geographical conditions, the Republic of Tajikistan remains as an area of high risk. For example, during the period from 1997 to 2014, 3236 natural disasters have occurred, which caused a damage for Tajikistan worth about 388 million US dollars, i.e., at the

average more than 22 million US dollars per year. In the results of natural disasters, 1072 people died during this period.

Most of the natural disasters occurring in the territory of the Republic of Tajikistan is connected with water.

Water is the life! Nevertheless, water is also a threat to the life. Global changes, including the climate change, population growth and rapid urbanization significantly increase the risk of water disasters.

Recent water mega-disasters in Southeast Asia and the Far East have shown that the problem of water disasters is not a local, but global problem. In this regard, a cooperation and solidarity between countries - is the only rational way to solve water disasters problems.

Tajikistan as a country-initiator of the important "water" Resolutions of the UN General Assembly is actively pursuing water issue at the global level and Disaster Risk Reduction connected with water is of a special attention in this process.

For the purpose of the water resources management for Disaster Risk Reduction and providing population of the Central Asian countries with clean drinking water, the President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon suggested to establish the International Consortium on use of water resources of the unique creations of the nature such as the Sarez Lake. This project certainly deserves a special attention and comprehensive support that will allow solving the problem of water shortage in the region, as well as reducing the risk of Sarez Lake inrush.

Republic of Tajikistan has repeatedly put forward the initiative to develop jointly its rich hydropower resources that could contribute to the comprehensive solution of current and future problems in the region and, in general, would accelerate the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by Central Asian countries.

First of all, large reservoirs could provide water security, would contribute to the prevention of extreme hydrometeorological events such as droughts, mudfloods, mudslides and floods.

Taking into consideration the fact that based on the initiative of Tajikistan, the years of 2005-2015 have been declared as the International Decade for Action "Water for Life" and the year 2013 as the International Year of Water Cooperation, and using this good opportunity, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan we would like to invite all of you to participate at the high-level international conference on the results of implementation of the International Decade for Action "Water for Life", which will be held on June 9-11, 2015 in Dushanbe City.

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen! We recognize that the future generations of our countries should live in a more stable and secure world. In this context, the Disaster Risk Reduction is a development towards a more secure and sustainable world.

Government of the Republic of Tajikistan appreciates the support and assistance of the donor-partners on Disaster Risk Reduction at the both regional

and global levels, which contributed to solving problems and achieving the goals of the "Hyogo Framework for Action."

Particularly, over the last ten years, in close cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme there have been implemented projects worth more than 17 million USD in the spheres of improving the management of natural disasters, capacity of public institutions and strengthen the resilience of the population.

Also, with the support of the Office of the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) during for 12 years there were implemented projects focused on Disaster Risk Reduction at the community level for a total amount of more than 21 million Euro.

The World Bank, Asian Development Bank and European Development Bank are dealing with financing of larger projects in the spheres of economic development, climate change impact and Disaster Risk Reduction.

For the purpose of the achievement of the expected results of the New program on Disaster Risk Reduction after 2015 and regulation of funding for the Disaster Risk Reduction, we think that it would be appropriate to identify a single source of funding from the Global Fund for the Disaster Risk Reduction in developing countries.

Taking consideration the experience gained within the frame of implementation of the "Hyogo Framework for Action", the Government of Tajikistan believes that it is important to continue working in following three strategic and complementary directions within the frame of the New Program on Disaster Risk Reduction after 2015: Preventing the formation of disaster risk, Reduction of the current disasters risk and Increase the resilience of populations, communities and countries to disasters.

Taking this opportunity, I would like to introduce you with proposals of the Republic of Tajikistan for the successful implementation of the New Program on Disaster Risk Reduction after 2015:

- Strengthening global and regional cooperation of the National Platforms;
- Establishment of the single resource of funds of the Global Platform for financing of projects on Disaster Risk Reduction;
- Strengthening the resilience to negative environmental impacts, climate change and natural disasters connected with water;
- Conduct regular dialogue on issues connected with fighting against the water disasters at the global level;
- Integration of measures connected with the climate change, problems of river floods and Disaster Risk Reduction, particularly at the regional level.

Tajikistan uses all available opportunities for implementation of the recommendations of the New Program on Disaster Risk Reduction for the period after 2015.

In conclusion, I would like to wish to all of usl a fruitful cooperation and success in solving the tasks.

Thank you for your attention!