



# Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Second Session, Geneva, Switzerland  
16 – 19 June 2009



## Proceedings

*Creating Linkages for a Safer Tomorrow*



United Nations





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## Foreword

The second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was a powerful opportunity to work together for a common purpose: to reduce disaster risk at all levels and as a means to tackle climate change.

The assessment of the participants was that this second session provided an opportunity to share disaster risk reduction experiences and lessons learned, to review our progress and challenges as well as to expand North-South and South-South dialogue. Through this approach, we achieved useful dialogue, meaningful commitments and practical approaches to furthering disaster risk reduction at all levels and with all partners.

I was particularly struck by the progress we were able to make on establishing linkages: from support for linking climate change adaptation to disaster risk reduction, to linking bottom up approaches--local to national--and linking all efforts to clear targets.

Take some time to reflect as you read these proceedings to think of the role you can play in moving the global agenda forward. I encourage you all to visit <http://www.preventionwebnet/globalplatform/2009/> to read the speeches, statements and recommendations presented by participants, as well as to peruse relevant documents and background materials.

Thank you for attending the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2009. Your participation and commitment recall the importance of ISDR partners – all of you-- in our combined efforts to increase global commitment for tackling disaster risk reduction.

Accelerated partner action today truly means a safer tomorrow for us all.

# Chair's Summary of the second session of the Global Platform

The Chair's Summary brought the second session of the Global Platform to a close. Chair John Holmes told delegates that the DRR process is increasingly being driven at the local level, particularly from leadership in developing countries. He highlighted areas to be considered critical for future progress and specific targets were identified, reflecting the conference's deliberations as catalysts for cutting deaths and economic losses brought on by disasters.

The Chair's Summary also notes that, with the HFA approaching the halfway point of its term, the mid-term review must address strategic and fundamental matters concerning its implementation towards 2015 and beyond. It states that this will require leadership from governments, close involvement of civil society, including women and children, and support from UNISDR and ISDR partners.

Global Platform Chair Holmes said the UNISDR secretariat would take all of the helpful, thoughtful and thought-provoking comments that delegates offered up through the week and at the Closing Plenary for careful consideration.

This summary provides the Chair's assessment of the main thrusts of the deliberations at the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. A draft of the summary was discussed in the final informal plenary and thereafter a revised draft was made available to participants for two weeks for further feedback, which has been considered in this final summary. More information on the meeting can be found at the following link:

<http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2009>

## Disaster risk and the Global Platform

1. The second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction took place in a context of growing alarm about global climate change and increasing disaster risks. In the opening high-level panel of the Global Platform, political leaders, including heads of State and heads of Governments, highlighted in stark, unequivocal terms that reducing disaster risk is critical to managing the impacts of climate change and avoiding an erosion of social and economic welfare.
2. Since the first session of the Global Platform in 2007, there has been a dramatic increase in political will in all regions to address disaster risk, across both developed and developing nations and both Governments and civil society organisations. This increase has been driven from the bottom up as communities recognise the dangers they face and the need for action. The energy and leadership in disaster risk reduction are increasingly coming from the South.
3. The Global Platform recognised that significant progress has been achieved since the Hyogo Framework for Action was endorsed by UN Member States in 2005, as reported in the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction, particularly in terms of life-saving measures such as improved disaster preparedness and response, but that much more needed to be done. Governments, NGOs and other partners were united in the belief that greater urgency is now



required to address the factors that are driving the increase in disaster risk, such as rural poverty and vulnerability, unplanned and poorly managed urban growth and declining ecosystems. Urgent action is necessary not only to reduce disaster risk, but also to maintain momentum in Millennium Development Goal achievement, including poverty reduction, adaptation to climate change and better health outcomes.

4. As the deliberations of the Global Platform progressed, it became clear that innovative approaches and tools have been developed and applied in many key areas such as the management of urban risks; the application of cost benefit analysis; community-based and local level strategies; early warning; and ensuring the security of facilities such as schools and hospitals.
5. The Global Platform highlighted the importance of education and sharing knowledge, including indigenous and traditional knowledge, and ensuring easy and systematic access to best practice and tools and international standards, tailored to specific sectors, and to necessary cross-border data. It also stressed the necessity for investment in research and development and higher education, and for the more effective integration of science and technical information into policy and practice.
6. Risk-prone countries are now giving high priority to disaster risk reduction and wish to move ahead quickly in the design and adoption of policies and strategies to address their risks. Increasingly, the urgency for this movement is coming from the vulnerable developing countries, which are likely to bear an increasingly disproportionate share of disaster impacts in times to come. A variety of national and regional platforms and organisations are being rapidly developed or strengthened to guide and coordinate this action. The international community needs to support these initiatives and facilitate better access to resources, assistance and expertise as a matter of urgency.
7. The following areas are considered critical to future progress:

## **Climate change**

8. Climate change is already dramatically magnifying the disaster risks threatening many developing nations. Some countries reported that an increasing scale and frequency of humanitarian emergencies is stretching both national and international humanitarian capacities. In the case of some small island states, increasing risk levels are undermining their continued social and economic viability as nations. Slow-onset disasters and associated food insecurity are a major concern. At the Global Platform it was recognised that addressing the underlying drivers of disaster risk therefore offers the potential for a triple win – for adaptation, disaster risk reduction and poverty reduction.
9. The overwhelming view of the Global Platform is that urgent action is required to harmonise and link the frameworks and policies for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and to do so within the broader context of poverty reduction and sustainable development. A priority is to incorporate both disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation as core policy and programmatic objectives in national development plans and supporting poverty reduction strategies and country assistance plans. Better preparedness for the humanitarian consequences of climate change is needed, including through early warning systems and local level adaptation. It was stressed that disaster risk reduction must be a concrete part of the deal on climate change that is sealed at the United Nations Climate Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009.

10. Disaster risk reduction policies also need to take account of climate change. A number of countries put forward concrete proposals to integrate or coordinate their efforts in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. It was emphasized that ecosystem management approaches can provide multiple benefits, including risk reduction, and thus should be a central part of such strategies. One group of countries proposed that a minimum of 30% of the adaptation finance available to developing countries should be applied to weather- and climate-related risk reduction projects. At the same time, disaster risk reduction policies must not neglect the geological hazards, such as earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions, which are responsible for a large proportion of disaster mortality.

## **Reduced risk for all**

11. The Global Platform highlighted a plethora of successful experiences in managing and reducing disaster risk at the community and local level and emphasized the key role of women as drivers and leaders of change in many of these processes, and the important roles of communities at high risk and indigenous communities. Children were also seen as strong agents for change who should be involved in the decision-making process. At the same time, it was highlighted that participatory and grassroots processes often were not adequately supported by central or local governments and that the methods, knowledge and tools generated are not being adequately brought into the mainstream of policy and implementation.
12. The Global Platform emphasized that success in reducing disaster risk and adapting to climate change, and in achieving sustainable livelihoods, requires extensive collaboration and partnerships that reflect the mutual dependence of central and local governments and civil society actors. These should provide necessary resources at the local level, involve civil society in monitoring progress on disaster risk reduction, and include mechanisms for increased accountability.
13. There is a pressing need to build institutions, including legal frameworks, to sustain disaster risk reduction action as an ongoing concern, and several countries stressed the need for technical assistance, to help grow their capacities. The development of platforms for disaster risk reduction at both national and sub-national levels needs to be accelerated in order to create an enabling environment, and to inclusively engage varied government and civil society interests and address cross-cutting issues.

## **Setting targets for disaster risk reduction**

14. The Global Platform highlighted that the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action must now accelerate rapidly from isolated actions and pilot projects to comprehensive programmes of action, and that the setting of targets in specific areas can help to achieve the necessary momentum.
15. It was proposed that by 2011 national assessments of the safety of existing education and health facilities should be undertaken, and that by 2015 concrete action plans for safer schools and hospitals should be developed and implemented in all disaster prone countries. Similarly, disaster risk reduction should be included in all school curricula by the same year. These targets

have emerged out of the 2008-2009 World Disaster Reduction Campaign on Hospitals Safe from Disasters.

16. Another proposal was that by 2015, all major cities in disaster-prone areas should include and enforce disaster risk reduction measures in their building and land use codes. Targets were also proposed for such things as national risk assessments, municipal disaster recovery plans, early warning systems, water risks, and the enforcement of building codes. The United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, called for a target to halve the losses of lives from disasters by 2015, when the term of the Hyogo Framework for Action ends.

## **Financing disaster risk reduction**

17. The Global Platform recognised a drastic mismatch between the resources required to address disaster risk in developing countries and those actually available. A massive scaling up of action is needed. Put bluntly, many countries must dedicate substantially more funds from national budgets – or increasingly suffer the consequences. This is also a must for the international community, since some countries suffer from institutional and capacity weaknesses and unless their capacities are strengthened implementation will not succeed.
18. A variety of innovations, such as incentives for retrofitting, risk transfer tools, risk-sensitive development, private sector involvement, debt swaps to finance disaster reduction measures and linkages with adaptation financing were proposed at the Global Platform. Institutional innovations proposed included more direct resourcing of local initiatives and groups that are effective in reducing risks, such as grassroots women's organisations. More explicit information is needed on the effectiveness and cost of specific measures and on the patterns of current investments in disaster risk reduction.
19. There is support by many participants to target the equivalent of 10% of humanitarian relief funds to disaster risk reduction work. Similarly, a 10% figure has been proposed as a target share of post-disaster reconstruction and recovery projects and national preparedness and response plans. Calls also were made for at least 1% of all national development funding and all development assistance funding to be allocated to risk reduction measures, with due regard for quality of impact. For its part the European Union has recently adopted a Union-wide strategy to support disaster risk reduction in developing countries.

## **The future**

20. The movement to reduce disaster risks is accelerating worldwide. The Global Platform acknowledged the important supporting role of the ISDR system and its various platforms and partnerships. With the term of the Hyogo Framework for Action approaching the halfway point, a Mid-Term Review is being planned to address strategic and fundamental matters concerning its implementation to 2015 and beyond. This will require leadership from Governments, close involvement of community stakeholders, strengthened regional capacities for coordination and programme support, and support from the UNISDR and ISDR partners.

21. We know how to move ahead. We can close the gaps and engage those who most need it. We can save lives, protect livelihoods, make our schools and hospitals safe, and help address the climate change issue. With strong advocacy, and stronger commitment, greater public awareness and support, and appropriate funds, we can substantially reduce the losses from disasters, as well as contributing to resilient social and economic development.
22. The Global Platform thus has a clear and simple message – that disaster risk can be readily reduced through practical action. Solutions exist and are being put into action in many countries. We can invest today for a safer tomorrow.



# Table of Contents

Foreword	ii
Chair's Summary of the second session of the Global Platform	iv
List of Acronyms	xii
<hr/>	
Opening Video Statement of United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, 16-19 June 2009	1
Extracts from Opening Address of John Holmes, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Chair of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, 16-19 June 2009	3
United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction	7
<hr/>	
1 Overview of the second session	8
1.1 Format of the session	8
1.2 Expected outcomes of the session	10
1.3 Agenda of the session	12
<hr/>	
2. Opening of the session	13
<hr/>	
3 Outcome 1 – Commitment to greater investment in disaster risk reduction	16
3.1 Plenary - Progress in Achieving a Substantial Reduction in Disaster Losses: Global and Regional Perspectives	16
3.2 High-Level Panel 1 – Progress and Challenges in Financing Disaster Risk Reduction	17
3.3 High-Level Panel 5 - Building Back Better: Disaster Risk Reduction and the Recovery Opportunity	17
3.4 Roundtable 1 – Early Warning Systems	18
3.5 Round Table 2: Urban risk - Increasing the Effectiveness of Local Action on Risk Reduction and Adaptation	19
<hr/>	
4. Outcome 2 – Reducing risk in a changing climate	20
4.1 High-Level Panel 2 – Reducing Disaster Risk in a Changing Climate	20
4.2 Round Table 3 – The Role of Ecosystems Management in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction	20
4.3 Informal Plenary	21
<hr/>	

<b>5. Outcome 3 – Accelerating community resilience and livelihood protection</b>	<b>22</b>
5.1 High-Level Panel 3 – Enabling Community-Led Resilience Through Preventive Action	22
5.2 High-Level Panel 4 – Safer Schools and Hospitals	23
5.3 Round Table 4 –Risk Reduction Education	24
5.4 Round Table 5 - Disaster Risk Reduction – Creating Synergies at the Grassroots	24
5.5 Special Event – Children for change – for local resilience	25
5.6 Informal Plenary	25
<b>6. Outcome 4: Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework</b>	<b>26</b>
6.1 Informal Plenary	28
6.2 Closing Plenary	29
6.3 Feedback Session of the Closing Plenary	29
<b>7. Global Meeting of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Annex 1</b>	
Joint statement by the six members of the ISDR Management Oversight Board: the Way Forward	35
<b>Annex 2</b>	
Summary Report on Meeting of Parliamentarians at the Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction - 18 June 2009	36
<b>Annex 3</b>	
Recommendations of National Platforms to the Chair and participants of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction	38
<b>Annex 4</b>	
List of Participants	41

Global Platform  
for Disaster Risk Reduction



Invest  
Today  
for  
Safer  
Tomorrow

**Investir**  
Aujourd'hui  
pour des  
Lendemain  
P



# List of Acronyms

ASEAN	Association of South-East Asian Nations
AU	African Union
CAPRA	Central American Probabilistic Risk Assessment
CC	Climate Change
CCA/UNDAF	Common Country Assessment/ United Nations Development Assistance Framework
CEB	United Nations Chief Executive Board
CEPREDENAC	Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central /Central American Coordination Center for Disaster Prevention
DPPI	Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Initiative
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ECO	Economic Cooperation Organization
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
GA	General Assembly of the United Nations
GAR	Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction
GFDRR	Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction (World Bank)
GP	Global Platform (for Disaster Risk Reduction)
GROOTS	Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters
HLCP	High Level Committee on Programmes, United Nations
IFRC	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPCC	Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change
ISDR	International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LAS	League of Arab States
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SG	Secretary-General of the United Nations
SOPAC	Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission
SRSG	Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UN	United Nations
UNCTs	United Nations Country Teams
UNDAF	United Nations Disaster Assistance Framework

UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDOCO	United Nations Development Organizations Coordination Office
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNICEF	United Nation's Children's Fund
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction secretariat
USG	Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations
WB GFDRR	World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organization





**Ban Ki-moon**

*Secretary-General of the United Nations*

## **Opening Video Statement of United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, 16-19 June 2009**

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

You gather for a very important meeting. Last month, the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction delivered a sobering verdict on disasters around the world. Risks are growing, especially in poor countries. In many parts of the world, we are losing ground. Moreover, it is clear that climate change is making things worse. The storm clouds are gathering. We face a more threatening future from natural hazards. Millions of people will be hit twice over. First, by more extreme weather. Second, by the loss of ecosystems and food and water supplies.

In December, world leaders will attend the United Nations Climate Conference in Copenhagen.

They must Seal the Deal on a comprehensive agreement. That deal needs to include steps to reduce disaster risk. Risk reduction is an investment. It is our first line of defence in adapting to climate change. It will pay handsome dividends.

The Hyogo Framework for Action is vital in reducing risk. We can link the implementation of Hyogo with a new climate agreement. We can achieve a triple win -- against poverty, against disasters and against climate change. I challenge you to set a target. Let us reduce loss of life from disasters by half by 2015. Let us also work to significantly reduce economic losses. I urge you to start working now on the immediate practical steps that will achieve this goal. The United Nations will back you in this effort. As one UN.

Dear colleagues, we know the problem. We know what to do. I wish you a successful and productive meeting.



**John Holmes**

*United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and  
Chair of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Reduction*

## **Extracts from Opening Address of John Holmes, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Chair of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva, 16-19 June 2009**

Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is the world's principal forum for tackling the growing problem of disasters. In this room, we have ministers and mayors, development practitioners and civil protection experts, scientists and educationalists, engineers and doctors, charities and the private sector, and many more. It is exactly this wide range of stakeholders and this blend of expertise, experience and responsibility that we are going to need to address the complexities of disaster risk effectively.

The central purpose of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is simple but challenging – to increase worldwide commitment and ensure sustained action to reduce disaster risks. And our biggest single challenge is to get our message out and acted on. Those listening to this speech this morning do not need to be convinced – they already are – but many key decision-makers out there still have to be persuaded to act. We all have a part to play in this.

The task we have this week is to decide on the steps needed to increase global commitment and ensure sustained action to reduce the risk of disaster. We must assess progress on implementing the Hyogo Framework. We must identify the key areas where accelerated action is needed. We must share experience and learn from good practice, and improve global awareness. And by Friday, we must have outcomes that are as concrete and achievable as possible. An overarching theme of this second session of the Global Platform is the linkages between disasters, poverty and vulnerability. We also need to focus closely on the issue of climate change, for two reasons.

Firstly, we know that climate change will increase the frequency and intensity of weather and climate hazards and will deplete and stress the planet's ecosystems upon which we all depend. Secondly, a new global agreement on climate change will be decided in Copenhagen in December this year. There are good prospects that it will strongly acknowledge the role of disaster risk reduction in adaptation. The point is that there is no better time than right now to intensify our efforts to incorporate disaster risk reduction into the planning regimes that deal with the burning issues of poverty and climate change.

Let me turn to the outcomes that we must seek to achieve over the next four days. As Chair, I will be listening carefully and will do my best to capture all your thoughts in my report in the end. But already I believe that we need significant advances in four key areas.

First - increased investment in disaster risk reduction: this is fundamental and we need more specific initiatives, both in a technical sense and in terms of investment policies and mechanisms.

Second - the integration of disaster risk reduction into climate change adaptation and development planning: we need urgently new ideas on how to achieve this in practice, including through adaptation financing, and with clearer advocacy messages.

Third - the acceleration of community resilience and livelihood protection: mature methodologies and extensive civil society capacities are available, but these need more systematic support and stronger government-civil society partnerships.

Fourth - the planned Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework: clear principles and directions need to be settled, so that the review becomes the powerful tool we need to advance our shared goals.

For my part, I am happy to report that the United Nations has recently established guidelines on mainstreaming disaster risk reduction for its development organisations and programmes, as an initiative of the United Nations Development Group and with the support of the UNISDR secretariat. This gives us a better platform for the urgent action we need to see. I also want to acknowledge the invaluable contributions by the national platforms, fifty of which have already been established, and Hyogo Framework national focal points for the disaster risk reduction work in their respective countries and regionally.

I am also pleased to announce two further initiatives to support action in vulnerable countries. Firstly, a "Help Desk" for disaster risk reduction will be created in order to provide Governments with systematic access to information on organisations, networks and tools needed to support their disaster risk reduction efforts. This system will be developed by the UN's ISDR framework and will involve ISDR partners as prime sources of information and support.

Secondly, I have asked the UNISDR to quantify, to the extent possible, the levels of existing investment in risk reduction. The rationale for this is simple – we cannot argue forcefully for new or expanded investment in disaster risk if we have only vague ideas about the types and amounts of investment that are already being made. This will be a formidable challenge, not least because the financial data are not readily available and because risk reduction actions do not neatly fit into compartmentalized boxes. But approximate and incomplete information will be better than nothing for those who need it – that is Governments, donors, and implementing agencies, all concerned with adaptation policies.

The way forward is clearer now than ever before. We have used the five years since Kobe well, but not well enough. The threats are rising, and now is the time for substantive and measurable action. Let us be bold and commit to specific targets and action, as called for by the Secretary-General. Let us put the tools at our disposal to work – the Hyogo Framework, the ISDR system, the UN System, all our networks of experts, and the vast repositories of scientific, engineering and social knowledge. Let this meeting create positive and practical outcomes that truly increase global commitment. I look forward to hearing a wide range of voices and perspectives this week. As diverse and unique as they may be, there is one overriding common denominator in our discussion: we need global action, and we need it now. We need to invest today for safer tomorrow.



### Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the resilience of nations and communities to disasters

The Hyogo Framework (<http://unisdr.org/eng/hfa/hfa.htm>) was adopted by 168 governments at the World Conference for Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan in January 2005. It seeks to achieve a substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets. It identifies five priorities for action:

- Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.
- Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning.
- Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels.
- Reduce the underlying risk factors.
- Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.





International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

## **United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction**

The International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) is a United Nations-mandated global strategy to engage a wide range of actors in a coordinated effort to reduce the risks of disasters and to build “a culture of prevention” in society as part of sustainable development. The UNISDR secretariat in Geneva acts as the focal point in the UN system for the coordination of disaster reduction as well as to ensure that disaster risk reduction becomes integral to sound and equitable development, environmental protection and humanitarian action.

The ISDR system comprises the cooperative mechanisms, including most importantly, the biennial Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, through which governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, international financial institutions, technical institutions and networks, and civil society organisations interact, share information and collaborate on risk reduction programmes and activities. The ISDR system is supported by the ISDR secretariat (UNISDR).

Its mission is to be an effective coordinator and guide for all of the ISDR partners, globally, regionally and nationally (through UNISDR's provision of support to National Platforms) in order to:

- Mobilise political and financial commitments to disaster risk reduction and Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters (HFA);
- Develop and sustain a robust multi-stakeholder system; and
- Provide relevant knowledge and guidance.

Coordination of the ISDR system of partnerships, driving a global disaster risk reduction movement focused on meeting the HFA's objectives, which serve as the overall framework for implementing disaster risk reduction, is a key role for the secretariat and its regional office networks. These partnerships comprise a broad range of actors, all of whom have essential roles in supporting nations and communities to reduce risk.

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## 1. Overview of the second session

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The second session of the Global Platform was held at the International Conference Centre in Geneva, Switzerland from 16-19 June 2009 with additional pre-session events organised on 14 and 15 June 2009. The Global Platform brought together a formidable gathering of the world's disaster risk reduction community in order to finalize the global disaster reduction agenda for the next two years and beyond. This year's event was particularly important for establishing the way forward in the run up to "Seal the Deal" at the forthcoming Copenhagen Climate Change Conference in December 2009.

The Global Platform provided an opportunity for a broad range of partners to assess progress made on disaster risk reduction since the First Session in 2007 and to increase commitment and measurable actions to implement the HFA. It was instrumental for all parties involved in DRR and helped to raise awareness on reducing disaster risk, share diverse and similar experiences and guide the ISDR system in the successful fulfilment of its mandate. The Global Platform recorded 1,688 participants, including representatives from more than 140 governments, 54 inter-governmental organisations and UN specialised agencies, and 43 non-governmental organisations. The conference provided a unique opportunity as the primary multi-stakeholder forum for a broad range of partners to assess progress made on disaster risk reduction (DRR) since the June-2007 First Session and most importantly, to increase commitment and measurable actions to implement, both nationally and locally, the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Participants met in an opening plenary, followed by five high-level panels on: increasing investment in for risk reduction; reducing disaster risk in a changing climate; enabling community-led resilience through preventive action; safer schools and hospitals; building back better: disaster risk reduction and the recovery opportunity. In round tables discussions centred on early warning, local

authorities and urban risk reduction, the role of ecosystems in DRR, education, and creating synergies at the grassroots level. The closing plenary brought participants' closing statements and discussion of the Chair's Summary.

Key issues emanating from these sessions were taken up during the Informal Plenary, the purpose of which was to comment on the HFA mid-term review and implementation.

To conclude the second session, the Chair's Summary was informed by reports drawn from all segments of the Global Platform and the pre-session events; particularly from the High-Level Panels, Regional Progress Reports and Official Statements. In addition, summaries of discussions in the Informal Plenary and inputs by all partner representatives – including Governments, NGOs, UN, IGOs, the World Bank and academic institutions further informed the Chair's Summary. The Chair's Summary is currently helping to set the agenda for the global DRR community to prepare for the HFA mid-term review and the UN climate change negotiations in Copenhagen in December 2009.

### 1.1. Format of the session

The second session's Plenary provided Governments and organisations an opportunity to present their experiences, discuss challenges and opportunities for reducing disaster risk and sharing good practices and lessons learned in building resilience. Particular emphasis was placed on investing in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

The Plenary featured speakers who provided global and regional perspectives relating to progress in the implementation of HFA priorities. Covering five areas from the Official Opening through Global and Regional Progress Reports, High-Level Panels and Official Statements to the Closing Ceremony, the Plenary assessed

the state of global and regional progress in the implementation of the HFA; identified critical gaps and actions to accelerate national and local implementation; and addressed disaster risk and community resilience from each of several perspectives including financing, climate change, early warning, urban risk, safer structures, livelihoods and the post-disaster recovery opportunity. All agreed that investing today for a safer tomorrow generates a triple return: more resilience, self-reliance and sustainable futures.

### High-Level Panels

Five High-Level Panel discussions over the four days of the second session focused on progress in implementing HFA priorities by addressing financing disaster risk reduction through safer institutions to accelerating community resilience and recovery. Drawing from firsthand observations, knowledge and experience, panelists identified gaps and challenges and recommended ways forward to accelerate action at all levels. Panelists were drawn from Governments, international financial institutions, UN, civil society organisations and NGOs. The link between poverty, disaster risk and climate change featured prominently in discussions. These themes were reflected in the titles of the High-Level Panels:

- Increasing investment for risk reduction
- Reducing Risk in a Changing Climate
- Enabling Community-Led Resilience through Preventive Action
- Safer Schools and Hospitals; and
- Building Back Better: Disaster Risk Reduction and the Recovery Opportunity

### Informal Plenary

Informal Plenary sessions enabled participants to continue the discussions on key issues emanating from the Global Platform High-Level Panels and Official Statements with a view to commenting on HFA implementation and the process for the HFA Mid-Term Review. The ensuing discussions helped to shape the Chair's Summary and support

the main outcomes of the Global Platform second session which focused on the following considerations:

- Recognition of the need to specifically address a clearly linked and specific agenda for climate change and disaster risk reduction;
- Clear expressions of commitment by Governments on how to increase investment in disaster risk reduction;
- Key constituency engagement in scoping out targets and methods to undertake the mid-term review of the HFA in 2010;
- Identification of actions critical to accelerate national and local implementation; and
- Discussion and how best should the ISDR system support countries in implementation of the HFA.

### Round Tables

Round Tables were organised by ISDR system partners with a view to furthering dialogue and debate on issues of relevance to themes that were key to the disaster risk reduction agenda, but which might not have been specifically addressed in other forums at the second session. Round Tables were organised at the specific request of ISDR system networks or platforms to cover the following key thematic areas: early warning, urban risk, NGOs, education, eco-systems and DRR at grass-roots level.

### Pre-session Events

Pre-Session events afforded delegations the opportunity to meet in advance of the commencement of the regular programme of the second session. A number of regional partner meetings and a global meeting of national platforms took place.

### Special Events

A variety of special events took place each day. To ensure as comprehensive coverage as possible, special events were clustered around the following





themes: climate change adaptation, financing, community, local authorities and civil society's actions in support of HFA implementation, space technology and early warning systems, education, flood management, safe structures, health and others.

## Market Place

Throughout the week, the Disaster Risk Reduction Market Place provided a dynamic venue for the showcasing of major projects, innovative tools, instruments, services and networks that support the implementation of the HFA. The Market Place was structured to ensure a broad thematic and regional representation and proved to be popular with participants.

### 1.2 Expected outcomes of the session

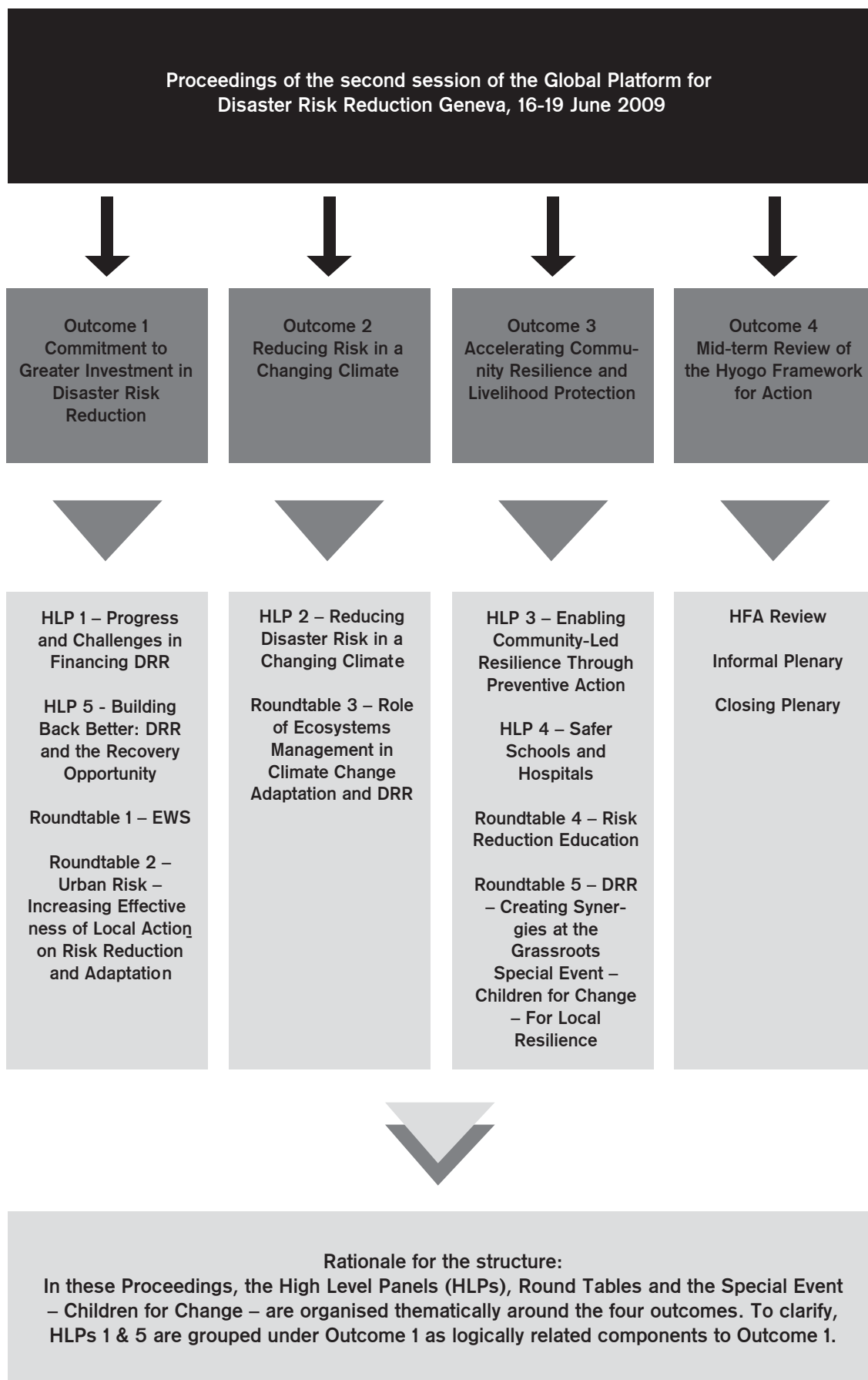
Four outcomes were established for the second session and served as the thematic basis for each day's meetings and events:

1. Commitment to greater investment in disaster risk reduction. This is a fundamental

outcome and more specific initiatives, both in a technical sense and in terms of investment policies and mechanisms, are required. Governments and organisations were asked to capture their specific commitments as well as to upscale their investments.

2. Reducing risk in a changing climate. Integration of disaster risk reduction into climate change adaptation and development planning. New ideas are needed urgently on how to achieve this in practice, including adaptation financing, and the generation and promotion of clearer advocacy messages.
3. Accelerating community resilience and livelihood protection. Mature methodologies and extensive civil society capacities are available, but these need more systematic support and stronger government-civil society partnerships in risk reduction.
4. Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework. Clear principles and directions need to be settled, so that the review process becomes the powerful tool needed to advance shared goals.

Figure 1:  
Overview Chart of  
the Proceedings  
Format



### 1.3 Agenda of the session

Monday 15		Tuesday 16		Wednesday 17		Thursday 18		Friday 19	
8:00									
8:30									
9:00	Registration* & Market Place set up	Registration Start 8:30		Special Events (SE) 8:00-9:30		Special Events (SE) 8:00-9:30		Special Events (SE) 8:00-9:30	
9:30	Start 8:30								
10:00			Plenary Official Opening of the Session		Plenary High-Level Panel 2: Reducing Disaster Risk in a Changing Climate 09:30-11:00 Room 1	Plenary High-Level Panel 4: Safer Schools and Hospitals 09:30-11:00 Room 1		Plenary Opening Remarks and Introduction Keynote Speaker, Keynote presentation, Feedback and Wrap-Up. Chair's Summary and Closing 9:30-13:00 Room 1	
10:30			Organization of the Session 9:30-11:00 Room 1				Launch of Weather Info for All Room 2		
11:00									
11:30									
12:00			Plenary Progress in Achieving a Substantial Reduction in Disaster Losses: Global and Regional Perspectives 11:00-13:00 Room 1		Round Table 2: Local authorities on urban risk reduction 11:00-13:00 Room 18	Meeting of Parliamentarians**** 11:00-13:00 Room 5	Round Table 4: Education 11:00-13:00 Room 18		
12:30									
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## 2. Opening of the session

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*United Nations Secretary-General **Ban Ki-moon*** opened the second session of the Global Platform by video message on Tuesday, 16 June. Recognising that the world is increasingly facing threat from natural disasters – with the impacts of climate change compounding the situation – the Secretary-General stressed that DRR is the frontline defence and a crucial investment for the future. Mr. Ban challenged participants to set targets and take practical steps to reduce the loss of life and damage from disasters.



***Hans-Rudolf Merz**, President of the Swiss Confederation*, described Switzerland's commitment to invest in prevention measures against such local natural hazards as landslides, floods, drought and earthquakes. President Merz said that it is better to “prevent than to cure,” and stressed the importance of cooperation and experience-sharing for global solutions and more effective protection measures against natural disasters.



***John Holmes**, UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Chair of the Global Platform*, underlined overarching themes of the meeting: the linkages between disasters, poverty and vulnerability, as well as the connection between DRR and climate change. He then highlighted progress in four key areas: increased DRR investment; integration of DRR into climate change adaptation and development policies; acceleration of community resilience and livelihood protection; and a comprehensive mid-term review of the HFA. Mr. Holmes stressed that although the international community is increasingly addressing DRR – and indeed, disaster risk reduction can serve as a helpful and motivating instrument during the UN climate change negotiations, there is still a need to integrate it into core decision-making processes of governments to ensure sustained action.



**Anote Tong**, *President of Kiribati*, alerted participants to the existing security threats that climate change poses to his nation. He outlined short-term adaptation strategies to address sea level rise but underscored the need to relocate the population of his country within the next fifty years. President Tong stressed the need for robust global policy frameworks, financial investments and effective partnerships, and extended gratitude to the EU and multilateral institutions for sustained funding of adaptation programmes in Kiribati.



**Rafael Albuquerque**, *Vice-President of Dominican Republic*, outlined national challenges and policies to address natural disasters in his country, including the development of a national platform on DRR, the establishment of a technical committee, and efforts to establish a national fund for disaster risk prevention and reduction. Noting that natural disaster impacts are both causes and consequences of poverty, Vice-President Albuquerque discussed the connection between poverty and adaptation. He stressed the need for participatory approaches to DRR and explained civil society initiatives such as “work brigades” and a solidarity programme in the Dominican Republic.



**Orette Bruce Golding**, *Prime Minister of Jamaica*, said UNISDR’s mission is crucial to the well-being of the world but noted that many governments display insufficient political commitment to action. Noting that natural disasters in 2008 affected 200 million people and incurred damage costs of US \$180 billion, he stressed the importance of financial resources for risk reduction.







**Raila Odinga**, Prime Minister of Kenya, drew attention to the effects of climate change facing Africa as well as other pressing priorities on the continent and called for an inter-sectoral approach to deal with DRR and climate change at national, regional and global levels.



**Issatou Njie Saidy**, Vice-President of Gambia, stressed the need for better stakeholder coordination for DRR and stronger strategic alliances and partnerships to address resource and financial challenges faced by developing countries.



**Libertina Amathila**, Deputy Prime Minister of Namibia, urged participants to use this forum to share experiences, expertise and practices in order to “make a difference for the people on the ground.”



Drawing on his country’s experiences in managing natural disasters, **Muhammad Abdur Razzaque**, Minister of Food and Disaster Management, Bangladesh, stressed the need for greater investment in early warning systems that would better prepare nations for disasters.



**Liew Vui Keong**, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia, emphasized the importance of public-private partnerships in addressing DRR and the role of the media in raising public awareness.



Describing natural disasters as the “greatest humanitarian challenge of our time,” **Senator Loren Legarda of the Philippines** said that reducing disaster risk is a moral imperative for governments. The Senator called for a renewed commitment to DRR and urgent policy reforms that, *inter alia*, build local capacities, link DRR and climate change adaptation, and acknowledge indigenous knowledge and gender sensitivity.

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### 3. Outcome 1 – Commitment to greater investment in disaster risk reduction

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#### 3.1 Plenary - Progress in Achieving a Substantial Reduction in Disaster Losses: Global and Regional Perspectives

##### Global Perspectives

Presentations were made on global achievements and challenges in implementing the HFA. Andrew Maskrey, Global Assessment Report (GAR) Coordinator, UNISDR, presented the main findings from the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction: Risk and Poverty in a Changing Climate. He said disaster risk is magnified by climate change, unevenly distributed geographically and concentrated in developing countries. He reported that low-intensity risk is widespread and rapidly increasing, and emphasized the need to address key driving factors behind this trend, including deficient local governance, vulnerable rural livelihoods and declining ecosystems. Noting mixed progress in reducing risk and economic losses, Mr. Maskrey listed recommendations, including the need to: accelerate global efforts to avoid dangerous climate change and increase economic resilience; invest in risk reducing development; and introduce governance innovations to integrate risk reduction and development policies.

Sálvano Briceño, Director, UNISDR, highlighted a number of key achievements since the first session of the Global Platform in 2007, pointing out that 120 governments have designated national focal points for HFA implementation and 50 have established multi-stakeholder national platforms for DRR.

Walter Erderlen, Chair, ISDR Scientific and Technical Committee, presented the committee's work, highlighting issues concerning climate change, early warning systems, public health and socio-economic resilience. He highlighted the

need to make scientific knowledge available to policymakers for more cohesive policy formulation, and encouraged participants to work to translate conclusions into concrete actions.

Loïc Fauchon, President, World Water Council, highlighted immediate actions that can be taken to address water-related disasters including, strengthening the role of parliamentarians, local authorities and civil society organisations, and the need for greater inter-organisational coordination during disasters.

Marcus Oxley, Chair, Global Network for Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction, highlighted the gap between national policies and local level actions, scarce financial resources at the local level, and using funding from climate change to address underlying DRR issues in developing countries.

Carlos Foradori, Chair, ISDR Support Group, described the work of this group, which for the past two years has focused on recommendations from the first session of the Global Platform, periodic updates on the HFA, addressing financial constraints, and how to better link DRR and climate change.

##### Regional Perspectives

His Royal Highness Prince Turki Bin Nasser Bin Abdulaziz, President of Meteorology and Environment, Saudi Arabia, provided an update on the Arab region's progress in confronting natural hazards, noting the need to strengthen national coordination and prepare an Arab regional strategy for DRR.

Ambassador Tomas Husák, Czech Republic, on behalf of the European Union, said that the EU is committed to the HFA and actively supporting DRR in developing countries.

Eladio Fernandez-Galiano, Executive Secretary, European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), Council of Europe, stated that national platforms for DRR have been established in 11 European countries and 35 EU countries have HFA focal points. He added that more work is needed to integrate DRR into national legislation throughout Europe.

On HFA implementation in the Americas, Pablo González, Chief, Risk Management and Adaptation to Climate Change, Organisation of American States, stressed the importance of regional and sub-regional organisations to address DRR issues and called for more South-South cooperation.

Abebe Haile-Gabriel, Head, Rural Economic Division, African Union, highlighted progress in the African region, noting governments, with support from sub-regional intergovernmental institutions, are working on integrating DRR into their development strategies but work remains to translate political commitments into action. For the Pacific region, Cristelle Pratt, Director, Pacific Islands Applied Geo-Science Commission, noted a number of achievements, including the formulation of DRR national action plans in a number of countries.

Adelina Kamal, Head, Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance Division, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, announced that ASEAN will be the first region to make DRR legally binding.

to risk reduction financing as a guide for Governments that are now starting to manage risk through national planning instruments; and shared experiences and challenges related to the definition of investments. The panel also explored how to track and monitor the progress of investment categories as agreed for national use, and discussed experiences with differing approaches; and shared experiences in establishing comparable baseline data by using agreed indicators and investment definitions; at national level and as relevant at international level.

This Panel provided an overview and highlights on lessons, findings and recommendations from global and regional reports prepared since the Global Platform in 2007, and followed the recommendations from that session. The reports provided a stock-taking of the achievements and outstanding gaps in HFA implementation at different levels, with a clearer sense of the need for action and the directions of that action.

Several key issues raised during an ensuing discussion, including the need to: mainstream DRR at the local, national and regional levels; create the right environment for investment in DRR, such as having the right incentives and legal frameworks in place; develop a global mechanism for cooperation sharing, transfer of knowledge and experience; have a common platform for strategies between DRR and climate change adaptation; allocate a portion of national budgets to disaster management funds; and establish a global fund for DRR.

### **3.2 High-Level Panel 1 – Progress and Challenges in Financing Disaster Risk Reduction**

High-Level Panel 1 focused on expertise and experiences gathered by National Governments that have made major investments in disaster risk reduction through their National Development Plans. The Panel discussed experiences and mechanisms in securing dedicated budgets for disaster risk reduction at all levels of the Government; identified key issues related

### **3.3 High-Level Panel 5 - Building Back Better: Disaster Risk Reduction and the Recovery Opportunity**

This High-Level panel was convened to take stock of the effectiveness of the way in which risks are being reduced in post-disaster contexts. Country representatives who have undertaken large recovery operations in recent years were invited to share their experiences. The Panel identified some of the main stumbling blocks for the more

systematic integration of disaster risk reduction into recovery, in particular those related to funding policies and the international architecture of country support in post-disaster contexts. Mukesh Kapila, Senior Advisor, World Bank, moderated this session on post-disaster recovery and rebuilding. He offered that “Building back better” means going beyond restoring the way things were and instead enabling affected communities to achieve a greater level of resilience through recovery.

Rachel Shebesh, Member of Parliament, Kenya, stressed that communities affected by disasters should rely on themselves in reconstructing their lives, adding that women should be part of the decision-making and recovery process. Lorena Cajas Albán, Technical Secretary for Risk Management, Ecuador, stressed institutionalising DRR in future development plans and the involvement of all stakeholders in reconstruction activities.

Citing recovery efforts in Aceh since the 2004 tsunami, Bakri Beck, Deputy-Chief for Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, National Agency for Disaster Management, Indonesia, noted progress made in building back better housing systems and preparedness programmes. He supported government involvement in all reconstruction activities and community-based development.

Assessing lessons learned from ASEAN’s involvement in Myanmar following Cyclone Nargis in 2008, Surin Pitsuwan, Secretary-General, ASEAN, stressed the importance of integrating DRR in all aspects of rebuilding and of countries developing comprehensive recovery plans. Dean Hirsch, President and Chief Executive, World Vision International, added that the involvement of children is an essential component of DRR. Jordan Ryan, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR), said reconstruction is not just about rebuilding physical structures but also about focusing on human recovery and having comprehensive disaster management programmes in place before disaster

hits. Vinay Kumar, Ministry of Home Affairs, India, said that, after four major natural disasters in the last two decades, India now has the legal framework and mechanisms in place for rescue and relief efforts as well as reconstruction. Disaster resilience, he said, should be part of development planning.

With a target timeframe of 2011, expected outcomes included:

- Ensuring consideration of sustainable and resilient livelihood recovery is included in all country recovery plans;
- Building on existing processes, adopt standard post disaster needs assessment procedures and methodologies; and
- Developing a tracking system to monitor the quality of post disaster rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes

### 3.4 Roundtable 1 – Early Warning Systems

Maryam Golnaraghi, Disaster Risk Reduction Programme Chief, WMO, and Bhupinder Tomar Senior Officer, Disaster Preparedness, IFRC, co-chaired this session on challenges faced in the implementation of Early Warning Systems. Co-Chair Golnaraghi noted the economic costs associated with disasters have increased while the human casualties have decreased largely due to the effective implementation of early warning systems. She also highlighted that more than 60 percent of countries do not have an effective early warning system. Co-Chair Tomar stated that although human life is being preserved, livelihoods are still being lost.

José Rubiera, Director, Cuban Institute of Meteorology, highlighted elements for success in dealing with disasters from local to national level. Catherine Martin, Philippines National Red Cross, presented on community-level management and explained that the community is central to the success of every early warning system. Dr. Harsh Gupta, Fellow, National Geophysical Research Institute, India, described the Tsunami

early warning system and he placed emphasis on the need for a detailed topography of the coastal area concerned; ocean bottom pressure recorders; tide gauges; and immediate action when a warning is issued.

Farhad Uddin, Director General, Disaster Manager Bureau, Bangladesh highlighted his country's cyclone preparedness programme that has drawn 43,000 volunteers to disseminate warning messages to far-flung areas.

Kuniyoshi Takeuchi, Researcher, Public Work Research Institute, Japan emphasized the human factor in the success of any early warning system.

Finally, Karl-Otto Zentel, Chief Executive Officer, German Committee for Disaster Reduction, noted that Germany had recognised early warning systems as the most important contributing factor for saving lives in disaster situations, and had improved its early warning systems procedures over time.

### **3.5 Round Table 2: Urban risk - Increasing the Effectiveness of Local Action on Risk Reduction and Adaptation**

Narayan Gopal Malego, Mayor of Katmandu, Nepal, and Violeta Seva, General Secretary and Treasurer, Earthquake and Megacities Initiative, the Philippines, co-chaired the roundtable on urban risk. Co-Chair Narayan noted the important role local authorities play in the implementation of urban risk reduction (URR) strategies, highlighting that this role will be broadened as the effects of climate change increase. He emphasized the need for central government support of local government actions and greater investment in local-level URR strategies.

Co-Chair Seva, highlighted the importance of: a review of the role of local authorities in contributing to the HFA mid-term review; increased investment in URR by donors; a redistribution of funds to favor the more vulnerable; increased capacity building at the local level on URR and DRR; and city-to-city cooperation to enhance the sharing of ideas and experiences.

Bhichit Rattakul, Executive Director, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, Thailand highlighted that although some cities are trying to tackle climate change as a stand-alone disaster, the most effective way to combat climate change in urban settings is through a holistic URR plan.

Alfredo Lazarte-Hoyle, Director, International Labour Organisation, Switzerland stressed that more attention should be given to local communities' capacities to use the available and allocated resources. He pointed to the need for viable city disaster plans and land-use plans, and urged support for the local community to better articulate their position on URR.

Ian O'Donnell, Senior Officer, ProVention Consortium, stated that engagement of local-level actors, particularly local authorities, will be of key importance in the second half of the HFA implementation period.

Finally, Inga Bjork-Klevby, Deputy Executive Director, UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), reiterated her agency's support for URR measures and noted that there are many more challenges and risks that arise from growing urban populations which are compounded by the threat of climate change.

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## 4. Outcome 2 – Reducing risk in a changing climate

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### 4.1 High-Level Panel 2 – Reducing Disaster Risk in a Changing Climate

The conditions in which disaster risk reduction are being pursued are changing. Global climate change affects the frequency and intensity of climate-related hazards while also affecting the resilience and safety of communities, particularly the poorest, around the world. Negotiations among the world's Governments, culminating at UNFCCC COP-15 in December 2009, are expected to result in new agreements to address climate change. The overall goal of this High-Level Panel was to highlight the practical linkages between disaster risk reduction and climate change and to outline steps that can be taken over the course of the year to strengthen the integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in both policy and practice.

Han Seung-soo, Prime Minister, Korea, addressed participants via a video message. He stressed the importance of prevention and the need for multilateral cooperation.

Moderator Johan Schaar, Director, Secretariat to the Commission on Climate Change and Development, Sweden, noted the absence of sufficiently strong integration between DRR and climate change adaptation (CCA), and stressed that ongoing climate change negotiations provide a crucial opportunity to incorporate DRR into future climate policy.

Discussing mismatches between CCA and DRR, he said disaster reduction is characterized by short-term responses while adaptation is regarded as a long-term policy priority.

Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) pointed out that between 1980 and 2007, more than 8,000 natural disasters killed two million people, and more than 70 percent of casualties and 75 percent of economic losses were caused by extreme weather

events. Noting an increase in the frequency and intensity of climate-related natural disasters, he stressed the need for immediate action and for targeted information that allows policymakers to develop effective adaptation policy frameworks.

Gareth Thomas, Minister of International Development, UK, highlighted the need for an effective agreement on climate change in Copenhagen that incorporates DRR. He proposed that adaptation financing be used to fund DRR to harness political will around climate change.

Håkon Gulbrandsen, State Secretary for International Development, Norway, said sustainable long-term solutions and resource allocation to DRR are of key importance. He noted that weather-related disaster risks are increasing and having more devastating impacts on communities than expected.

Carlos Costa Posada, Minister of the Environment, Housing and Territorial Development, Colombia, stressed the need for co-financing DRR from central and regional government budgets.

Various panelists called for UNISDR to work with other international bodies; urged countries to invest in adaptation with or without international help; and noted that humanitarian crises are opportunities for attracting investment into the economy and creating jobs.

### 4.2 Round Table 3 – The Role of Ecosystems Management in Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

Ibrahim Thiaw, Director, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation, UNEP, chaired a roundtable on the role of ecosystem management in climate change adaptation and DRR.



Richard Munang, Project Manager & Researcher, Climate Change, UNEP, described the inter-linkages between ecosystem degradation and climate change, and their combined effects on the most vulnerable communities. Noting that this is a reversible process that can be tackled through reduced emissions from deforestation in developing countries (REDD), he urged collective responsibility at the local, national and global levels on the basis of “shared vision and knowledge.”

Sam Hettiarachchi, Professor, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka, said that although there have been several attempts to integrate ecosystem management, DRR and CCA, much still needs to be done to integrate them at the national level. Anders Wijkman, Swedish Member of the European Parliament, reiterated the need to involve policymakers in scientific processes to ensure better informed decisions in relation to ecosystem management, DRR and CCA.

Jim Leape, Director General, WWF International, stressed engagement with those responsible for resources and finance at the national and regional levels and emphasized the need for inter-sectoral cooperation.

Neville Ash, Head, Ecosystems Management Programme, IUCN, called for a stronger evidence base to link the two and noted the need for greater investment to restore and maintain ecosystems.

Participants then discussed the role of forest management in DRR; water management in response to melting snow caps; the effect of bio-fuels on the environment; limited funds for investing in DRR at the local level; a harmonized funding mechanism for ecosystem management, DRR and CCA; the need to make climate change “real” to local communities; inter-ministerial coordination; integration of DRR in national adaptation programmes of action; and the gap between the national level and the local level in terms of implementation.

### 4.3 Informal Plenary

Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Margareta Wahlström and Michel Jarraud, Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), co-chaired the informal plenary and discussed concrete steps toward mainstreaming DRR and conducting the Mid-Term review of HFA implementation. Co-Chair Jarraud said that making investment decisions on the basis of previous experiences is difficult because the past is no longer a good indicator of the future due to climate change. He noted considerable progress in responding to natural disasters over the last decade, including significant reduction in casualties and development of regional centers for typhoons.

Many stressed the importance of utilizing local knowledge and wisdom relevant to DRR. Various participants stressed the need for long-term policy agendas; early prevention and preparation for natural disasters beyond 2015; regular monitoring; involvement of international development sectors in DRR; better integration of development and humanitarian efforts; and provision of positive incentives for change.

Others highlighted the need to measure how the HFA is improving the ability of communities to address risk; assess the actual impact of national DRR platforms; share experiences in national policy implementation and regional collaboration; learn from best practices, “bad practices” and the “absence of practices” in relation to DRR; broaden the HFA to incorporate multiple discourses on climate change, development and DRR; develop capacity building modules; and utilize recent scientific information.

Noting the widespread view that absence of local DRR action is a major problem, one participant called for involving local authorities in the ISDR process. Co-Chair Wahlström requested participants to identify resources they could offer for the Mid-Term review process.

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## 5. Outcome 3 – Accelerating community resilience and livelihood protection

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### 5.1 High-Level Panel 3 – Enabling Community-Led Resilience Through Preventive Action

This High-Level Panel focused on critical components of community-level resilience and explored ways in which a national enabling environment can support local action. The session also examined ways to ensure community resilience to disasters through action on three interconnected issues: climate change adaptation, early warning and the protection of livelihoods. Panelists reviewed the need to develop in parallel to offsetting end-to-end, early warning systems and livelihood vulnerability assessment and livelihood risk reduction programs in high-risk areas, effective climate-related information systems to link development policies and programs to risk reduction measures and livelihood recovery planning and preparedness, including food security.

Participants worked toward a series of outcomes that included:

- better cooperation between national and local Governments to implement disaster risk reduction at the local level
- accelerated implementation of local HFA strategies through the development of local multi-stakeholder platforms linked to National Platforms and linking communities' requirements to national priorities and budgets
- programmes and dedicated national budget resources for the development in high risk areas of livelihood risk reduction measures and livelihood recovery preparedness in parallel with life-saving pre-disaster preparedness measures

Saidur Rahman, Director, Disaster Preparedness Centre, Bangladesh, moderated the session and

noted that any action to develop resilience at the community level must be led by people at that level.

Ana Lucy Bengochea, Chair of Comité Garifuna, Honduras, stressed the importance of protecting livelihoods, linking disaster and development aid and empowering the community, especially women, in disaster recovery and reconstruction. She added that traditional knowledge should be considered in DRR strategies.

Bekele Geleta, Secretary-General, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFCR), addressed the linkages between early warning and community resilience, emphasizing that community-led resilience is a prerequisite for a safer future. He added that DRR is not sufficiently reaching vulnerable communities and must be scaled-up, and requires more resources.

Naoto Tajiri, Director of the International Office for Disaster Management, Japan, emphasized that the use of low-cost, traditional technologies in disaster prevention can be replicated in other countries. José Rubiera, Director, Cuban Institute of Meteorology said that political will and human resources at all levels of society are essential to DRR.

Ali Wario, Chair of the African Union Special Task Force on a Pastoral Framework, stated that pastoral communities are vulnerable to natural disasters, especially drought and the impacts of climate change.

Participants also stressed the importance of capacity building in disaster prevention; more coordination between the national and local level; and placing the linkage between poverty and DRR on the development agenda. As one panelist said: "poverty is a disaster within itself."

## 5.2 High-Level Panel 4 – Safer Schools and Hospitals

This High-Level Panel reviewed worldwide progress on the construction of safer schools and hospitals. Panelists from selected geographical regions provided experiences from global, national and local levels to illustrate both successes as well as challenges to providing safe environments both in schools and hospitals. A key consideration for the debate was why, despite the availability of appropriate technology and approaches and options for replication of good practices, there is still an unacceptable delay in implementing HFA priorities for safe education and health facilities.

Several outcomes were achieved:

- A shared understanding of the critical factors required to effect a change in policy and practice at national and local level
- the identification of regional, national and local mechanisms (including cross-sectoral collaboration) that can be supported by either national platforms or the wider ISDR system;
- a set of suggested targets up to 2015
- the announcement of a new initiative to enhance multi-stakeholder involvement in building safer hospitals through a “Health Platform” type of cooperation.

Virginia Murray, Consultant Medical Toxicologist, Health Protection Agency, UK, moderated this panel and stressed the importance of building structurally sound schools and hospitals so that they can continue to provide vital services during natural disasters. She also said that health and education are critical elements of a holistic approach to DRR; critical infrastructures must be safe from disasters; education, knowledge management and training are essential to DRR; and scientific information should be shared and translated into practical know-how.

Carmencita Banatin, Department of Health, the Philippines, said hospitals are vulnerable to natural hazards and damage to hospitals undermines responses to disasters. She discussed initiatives and

tools in her country to ensure structural resilience and uninterrupted services; evidence-based research as inputs for decision-making; capacity building of major players; and partnership with civil society actors.

Gerard Bonhoure, Ministry of National Education, France, stressed the importance of scientific knowledge as a basis for policy. Discussing the connections between knowledge, decisions and actions, he said communities need to raise awareness of the complexity of disaster situations, assist people in making decisions and act as responsible citizens, and integrate DRR in the curricula of primary and secondary schools.

Laura Gurza Jaidar, Ministry of the Interior, Mexico, noted that her country has established hospitals with higher capacity in high-risk areas, and designated “essential hospitals” that are of strategic importance during disasters. She proposed introducing legal requirements; providing capacity building and training for response to pandemics; and providing disaster reduction information through the media.

Sulton Rahimov, Head of Department of Ecology and Emergency Situations, Tajikistan, stressed that his government has incorporated DRR into the national curriculum, including through extracurricular classes, and informal education tools such as drills, workshops and outdoor exercises.

Eric Laroche, Assistant Director-General, World Health Organisation (WHO), noted that many victims are not killed by natural disasters but die as a result of inadequate responses. He stressed the importance of investing in DRR -proposing allocation of 10-20 percent of humanitarian funding to DRR- retrofitting hospitals and training professionals and proposed a global thematic platform for health risk reduction; integration of health policy on all regional and national DRR platforms; continued investment in safe hospitals; and investment in research to inform decisions and action.

Various panelists stressed a number of issues including: the education of parents on DRR;

political leadership; multi-sectoral approaches to DRR; technical and professional training; and the use of the internet for awareness-raising.

### **5.3 Round Table 4 – Risk Reduction Education**

Martin Bell, Goodwill Ambassador, UNICEF, moderated the roundtable on risk reduction education, co-chaired by Margareta Wahlström and Louis-Georges Arsenault, Director, Division of Emergency Programmes, UNICEF. Co-Chair Wahlström underscored that education is a cornerstone of the DRR agenda, and called for stronger commitment at all levels to promote safer schools and safer environments for children. Co-Chair Arsenault urged participants to listen to the voice of children and adolescents on issues of DRR as these voices bring a different perspective for solutions.

Speaking for young people, Rhee Telen, the Philippines, stressed that children have a right to education and to participate in decisions that affect their future. Caroline Howe, Co-director, Indian Youth Climate Network, lamented that there is no time for the current generation to gather enough information on the risks of climate change to pass on to the youth, but emphasized that they are prepared to learn from, share experiences with, and teach the older generation.

Stressing that children are powerful advocates, Nigel Chapman, Chief Executive Officer, Plan International, underlined the importance of including children in the DRR agenda, noting that it is through educating children that entire communities are made aware of DRR practices. Guadalupe Valdez, Deputy Minister of Education, Dominican Republic, highlighted her country's policies on DRR and education and urged policymakers to invest in education budgets that will promote DRR.

Luis Figueras, Directorate General for Development, European Commission, Brussels underlined the need for the donor community to take on board a more coordinated and youth-oriented approach

to financing projects on education and DRR, and urged concerned ministries to push the DRR agenda into school curricula.

Maria Horn, Deputy Director-General, Swedish Development Agency, said that children are effective agents for change and stressed that linking DRR humanitarian work and development was key to spreading the DRR message.

### **5.4 Round Table 5 - Disaster Risk Reduction – Creating Synergies at the Grassroots**

Manu Gupta, Executive Director, Seeds India, moderated the NGO roundtable on creating DRR synergies at the grassroots level, which was chaired by Jemilah Mahmood, Director, Asian Disaster and Response Network, Malaysia. Chair Mahmood asked panelists to address issues related to the contribution of alliances and networks to the scaling-up of community-driven practices, and ways to develop a benchmark to encourage government accountability to grassroots actors on DRR issues.

Maureen Fordham, Senior Lecturer in Disaster Management, Disaster and Development Centre, UK described her organisation's experience as a web-based gender network whose aim is to connect various actors to further the DRR agenda from the NGO perspective. She noted that there remain barriers to fully integrating gender into the DRR agenda.

Margaret Arnold, Head, ProVention Consortium, Switzerland described the work of her organisation in post-disaster needs assessment, disaster resilience funding at the community level and creating links between the grassroots level, civil society and the government.

Carmen Griffiths, Director, Construction Resource and Development Center, South Africa, said that disasters bring people together, highlighting an example of women in Jamaica sharing experiences and knowledge in DRR with women in Honduras and Guatemala, and urged NGOs to replicate such

experiences in other parts of the world. Angel Marcos, Regional Coordinator, Center for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America (CEPRENAC), Honduras stressed that to further DRR, grassroots organisations need to be mainstreamed. He also highlighted the linkages between grassroots organisations, women's organisations and civil society in relation to DRR. Marcus Oxley, Chair, Global Civil Society Organisations network, underscored the need for political will in order to scale-up local level capacity for resilience, and emphasized that governance systems must be able to create consultative decision-making processes on DRR.

### **5.5 Special Event – Children for change – for local resilience**

Participants in this session, who included representatives of the world's four largest children's agencies, agreed unanimously that involving children in disaster risk reduction efforts today ensures sustainability and represents a down payment on future DRR efforts. Risk reduction begins at home, and children are keys to promoting change in how households behave. The second session revealed the extent to which children can be mobilised to contribute to a climate-smart future.

Discussions also centered on the capacity of children to learn about risks and hazards; their enthusiasm in sharing within the family unit their thoughts and ideas about these concepts; and the need for adults to ensure that children's voices are heard.

Participants were also quick to recognise the value of children in DRR efforts by virtue of their enthusiasm for the tasks at hand; their innate sense of confidence as agents of change; and the creative and energetic partnerships that can be forged with young people. As Tina Salsbury of World Vision International noted, progress is more imaginative and effective when children are involved. A key recommendation that resulted from the Plenary was that spaces should be created for children to participate in disaster risk reduction and climate

change adaptation efforts and forums. Their voices must be heard at the local, national and international levels and must be included in future discussions and debates.

The broad consensus achieved through this lively and important session was that prioritizing the involvement of young people is an essential feature of any society's capacity to manage risk. What was most striking for all participants was the level of confidence and knowledge demonstrated by the children who hosted this important event – particularly their grasp of the complex interplay between risk, exposure and hazard that generate disasters. These leaders of tomorrow will readily challenge complacency by speaking their minds, produce fresh ways of thinking about things and offer a much-needed enthusiasm for bringing about new approaches to climate change adaptation and DRR.

As the session concluded, it was agreed that helping children to learn and to use the knowledge about risks and disasters is an effective and predictable route to a safer tomorrow.

### **5.6 Informal Plenary**

Special Representative of the Secretary-General Margareta Wahlström was joined by Jordan Ryan, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Director of the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery as co-chair of the informal plenary. Co-Chair Wahlström updated participants on discussions taking place at other meeting sessions, noting suggestions to integrate young people and children into DRR and to allocate a minimum of one percent of national development budgets to DRR. Co-Chair Ryan further noted the importance of involving women and children in DRR, sustainability of recovery, institutional integration of DRR into planning and budgets, multilateral cooperation and concerted efforts at poverty alleviation.

One participant suggested ensuring that by 2015 at least fifty percent of schools have curricula related to DRR, and dedicating a minimum of ten percent of humanitarian aid to DRR. Many

participants highlighted the importance of local-level actions and broad participatory approaches, and lamented the relative shortage of local-level actors at this conference. Some said successes are often at the local level and lessons need to be drawn from them. Others suggested achieving a higher ratio of NGO participants in ISDR processes. Regarding the Mid-Term review, one participant proposed increasing transparency and accountability by appointing a separate and independent body to develop modalities for the review and provide quality insurance.

Noting that vulnerability is difficult to monitor, one participant proposed collaborative work between international organisations to develop a range of indicators for DRR. Several participants stressed the need for better cross-country learning; increased involvement of children; regional policy reports; provincial action plans; South-South cooperation; and an ecosystems-driven approach. One said that a forthcoming Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) special report on DRR will provide knowledge and answers that can be applied locally.

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## 6. Outcome 4: Mid-Term Review of the Hyogo Framework

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Throughout their discussions, delegates to the second session confirmed their shared belief that the outcomes, strategic goals and priorities for action of the Hyogo Framework center on a substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries. Three strategic goals form the basis of a global, coordinated response, specifically:

1. The integration of disaster risk reduction into sustainable development policies and planning.
2. The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities to build resilience to hazards.
3. The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes.

Stemming from these three strategic goals, Global Platform delegates made commitments and agreed on a variety of key activities to support realisation of each of the HFA's five Action Priorities:

1. Ensuring that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation through:

- DRR institutional mechanisms (National Platforms) and designated responsibilities
  - DRR as part of development policies and planning, sector wise and multi-sector
  - Legislation to support DRR
  - Decentralisation of responsibilities and resources
  - Assessment of human resources and capacities
  - Fostering political commitment
  - Community participation
2. Identifying, assessing and monitoring disaster risks and enhancing early warning through:
    - Risk assessments and maps, multi-risk: elaboration and dissemination
    - Indicators on DRR and vulnerability
    - Data and statistical loss information
    - Early warning
    - People-centered information systems
    - Public policy
    - Scientific and technological development data sharing
    - Space-based earth observation for climate modeling and forecasting
    - Regional and emerging risks
  3. Using knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all



levels through:

- Information sharing and cooperation networks across disciplines and regions
- Use of standard DRR terminology
- Inclusion of DRR into school curricula in formal and informal education
- Training and learning on DRR in the community level with local authorities and targeted sectors
- Research capacity multi-risk and socioeconomic
- Public awareness and media

4. Reducing the underlying risk factors through:

- Sustainable ecosystems and environmental management
- DRR strategies integrated with climate change adaptation
- Food security for resilience
- DRR integrated into health sector and safe hospitals
- Protection of critical public facilities
- Recovery schemes and social safety- nets
- Vulnerability reduction with diversified income options
- Financial risk-sharing mechanisms
- Public-private partnership
- Land use planning and building codes
- Rural development plans and DRR

5. Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.

- Disaster management capacities including policy, technical and institutional
- Dialogue, coordination & information exchange between disaster managers and development sectors
- Regional approaches to disaster response with risk reduction focus
- Review and exercise preparedness and contingency plans
- Emergency funds
- Voluntarism and participation

From these HFA Action Priorities and key activities cross-cutting issues have emerged: the

appropriateness and applicability of a multi-hazard approach to DRR; the importance of attaching the gender perspective and cultural diversity in all efforts that seek to mitigate disaster; the vital role that communities and volunteers play in the process; and lastly, the necessity of capacity building and technology transfer in equipping those affected by, and vulnerable to, disasters and climate change so that they are prepared for the next hazard.

Implementation and Follow-Up:

In order to achieve the goals and act upon the priorities identified in the HFA, the following tasks were identified to ensure implementation and follow-up by States as well as by regional and international organisations in collaboration with civil society and other stakeholders.

For States:

- Designate national coordination mechanisms (NP) for the implementation and follow up, and communicate with the ISDR secretariat
- Create national baseline assessments of the status of DRR
- Publish and update a summary of national programmes for DRR including international cooperation
- Develop procedures for reviewing national progress including systems for cost benefit analysis and ongoing monitoring on risk
- Consider acceding to, approving or ratifying relevant international legal instruments and ensure they are implemented
- Promote the integration of DRR with climate variability and climate change into DRR strategies and adaptation to climate change; and ensure there is management of any risks to geological hazards

For Regional Organisations and Institutions:

- Promote regional programmes for technical cooperation, capacity development, development of methodologies and standards for hazard and vulnerability monitoring and assessment as well as the sharing of information

and effective mobilisation of resources

- Undertake and publish regional and sub-regional baseline assessments
- Coordinate and publish reviews on progress and support needs and assist countries in preparation of national summaries
- Establish specialised regional collaborative centers
- Support the development of regional mechanisms and capacities for early warning as well as for tsunamis

For International Organisations (including UN System and IFIs):

- Engage in the implementation of the ISDR by encouraging integration of DRR into humanitarian and sustainable development fields
- Strengthen the capacity of the UN system to assist disaster-prone developing countries in DRR and implement measures for assessment of progress
- Identify actions to assist disaster-prone developing countries in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework, ensure their integration and that adequate funding is allocated; assist in setting up national strategies and programmes for DRR
- Integrate actions into relevant coordination mechanisms (UNDG, IASC, RCs and UN Country Teams)
- Integrate DRR into development assistance frameworks such as CCA/UNDAF, PRSP;
- In collaboration with networks and platforms, support data collection and forecasting on natural hazards and risks; early warning systems; and ensure the full and open exchange of data
- Support States with coordinated international relief assistance in order to reduce vulnerability and increase capacities
- Strengthen international mechanisms to support disaster stricken States in post-disaster recovery with DRR approaches
- Adapt and strengthen inter-agency disaster management training for DRR and capacity building

For ISDR:

- Develop a matrix of roles and initiatives in support of follow-up to the Hyogo Framework for Action
- Facilitate the coordination of effective actions within the UN system and other international and regional entities to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework, identify gaps, facilitate processes to develop guidelines and policy tools for each priority area
- In broad consultation, develop generic, realistic and measurable indicators that could assist States in measuring progress in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework;
- Support national platforms and regional coordination
- Register relevant partnerships with the Commission on Sustainable Development;
- Stimulate the exchange, compilation, analysis and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned
- Prepare periodic reviews on progress towards achieving the objectives of the Hyogo Framework for Action and provide reports to the UNGA and to other UN bodies

## 6.1 Informal Plenary

Kasidis Rochanakorn, Director, Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and Special representative of the Secretary-General Margareta Wahlström co-chaired the informal plenary on preparing for the HFA mid-term review by identifying challenges and best practices in implementing HFA at the national and local levels, financing, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

Participants stressed the importance of finance, capacity building, awareness raising and stronger DRR action at the local level. Various representatives of governments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and international organisations raised the following points: DRR is an unfamiliar concept in many

communities; the private sector assesses DRR costs but not the benefits from DRR action; it is more efficient to mainstream existing budgets toward DRR rather than increase budgets; policy project development is sometimes a prerequisite for funding; and DRR policy could be made a condition for partnership support in the same way that industrial project approval is contingent on environmental impact assessments.

Panelists also stressed the importance of: private sector involvement; public-private partnerships; the use of traditional local knowledge relevant to DRR; periodic policy reviews at national levels; engagement of women; and special consideration to low-lying small island nations. One participant noted a low level of awareness in countries regarding HFA, and stressed the importance of informing and involving government actors who make funding decisions.

Co-Chair Wahlström stressed the importance of learning from experience and called on participants to identify obstacles to effective action. She also discussed qualitative versus quantitative and peer reviews versus self-assessment approaches and urged participants to agree on the basis for the mid-term review.

## 6.2 Closing Plenary

On Friday, 19 June, in closing plenary, Global Platform Chair Holmes described his impressions of the second session of the Global Platform, noting that participants had placed a strong emphasis in the week's discussions on community involvement, education and health, urban risks, the fundamental role of women and children and climate change.

David Nabarro, UN System Coordinator on Avian and Human Influenza and the Global Food Security Crisis, stressed the importance of making pandemic preparedness an integral part of DRR planning and identified a number of factors that are essential to such preparedness: political commitment to sustain efforts; inter-

sectoral working capacity; and well-planned communications strategies. Mr. Nabarro warned that as the current swine flu pandemic evolves and spreads to other countries, poorer countries, governments and national health authorities need to make sure they are as ready as possible and for policymakers in the health sector to muster courage to be ready to overstep institutional boundaries in pursuit of effective action.

Laura Gurza, Ministry of the Interior, Mexico, added that although the pandemic is a health problem, it requires a response from various sectors of government and society, including the private sector.

Lastly, all agreed that the younger generation can and must play a part in the formulation of long-term planning strategies. Children will occupy an increasingly prominent role in DRR work and their voices must be heard when addressing the fundamental issues of climate change and DRR.

## 6.3 Feedback Session of the Closing Plenary

The Closing Plenary included a Feedback Session, introduced by Special Representative of the Secretary-General Margareta Wahlström, which highlighted feedback and take-away messages from specific stakeholders at the second session of the Global Platform.

Luz Amanda Pulido, Director of the National System of Disaster Prevention and Response, Ministry of the Interior, Colombia, reiterated the need to ensure that there is greater investment in disaster preparedness and disaster recovery systems, stressing that country-level preparedness for climate change and disaster should be monitored.

Norma Schimming-Chase, Member of Parliament, Namibia, provided an overview of the outcomes of a meeting of parliamentarians held during the second session of the Global Platform,

referencing the need to bridge the gap in HFA implementation at the regional, national and local levels; creating a conducive political environment for the implementation of HFA; and raising awareness on the role of women and other major groups in DRR.

Speaking on behalf of all National Platform representatives, Dr. Victor Rembeth, Vice-Chairman, National Platform for Disaster Reduction, Indonesia, presented a series of recommendations for States to expand their human and financial support of National Platforms.

The National Platforms also called on the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, John Holmes, through the UNISDR Secretariat, to organise and maintain a standing international forum of National Platforms for disaster risk reduction, among other facilitating and supportive roles. Recommendations included having other ISDR system partners: regional organisations, bilateral development agencies, non-governmental organisations and the private sector to expand their technical and financial support to National Platforms for DRR (the full statement and recommendations are contained in Annex 3 of the proceedings).

Haydee Rodríguez, representing the Huairou Commission, the Grassroots Organisations Operating Together in Sisterhood (GROOTS), Nicaragua, offered a statement on how to mainstream gender in DRR. Ms Rodríguez stressed that local level priorities must inform national level policies and added that there is a need for clear

mechanisms for collaboration and for growth of the resilience fund.

Two young people from Bolivia and the Philippines, representatives of Call For Action from Children (a proposal sponsored by UNICEF, Plan International and World Vision), spoke on behalf of children and their possible contributions in prevention and disaster risk reduction. The representative from Bolivia called on his country to implement laws that would give children the right to express themselves, be heard and live in a healthy environment. He called for greater involvement of children at future DRR Platforms. The representative from the Philippines equated Geneva to a “school for governments” and urged participants to return to their countries and “do their homework” on DRR with a view to including young people in the various processes.

Margareta Wahlström noted that the UNISDR would make available an online summary of work on the mid-term review, which will be open for comments from all stakeholders. The HFA will be the basis for the review as it contains a very recent framework, the review will be realistic in looking at the achievements already made with attention paid to lessons learned.

Ibrahim Osman, Deputy Secretary-General, IFRC, made a statement on behalf of the ISDR Management Oversight Board on the way forward. In setting targets to halve the number of disaster-related deaths by 2015, he called for the establishment of clear financial commitments to DRR, and a global structural evaluation of schools and hospitals.

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## 7. Global Meeting of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction

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On Monday, 15 June 2009, the day preceding commencement of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, a preparatory meeting of national coordination mechanism of focal points was held. The global meeting of National Platforms (NPs) for disaster risk reduction was organised as a pre-session event of the Global Platform to:

1. Provide a forum for National Platforms and HFA focal points to share information and knowledge in coordinating national initiatives for disaster risk reduction;
2. Discuss challenges and priority actions for National Platforms, including suggestions for UNISDR and other ISDR partners' support;
3. Adopt a common position on National Platforms with recommendations to be communicated to the second session of the Global Platform's Informal Plenary; and
4. Share existing tools and services made available by ISDR system partners for National Platforms.

Sálvano Briceño, Director and Helena Molin-Valdes, Deputy Director, UNISDR, explained that National Platforms are key mechanisms to lead the implementation of the HFA – fostering coordination as well as providing advice, advocacy and support to integrate disaster risk reduction in various sectors. The number of declared NPs has increased from 39 to 50 since the last Global Platform meeting. Mr. Briceño invited other countries to declare their Platforms to the UNISDR secretariat in order to show long-term commitment to the involvement of stakeholders and multiple sectors in DRR, particularly while climate change brings a historic opportunity to recognize disaster risk reduction as a necessary tool. He emphasized the need for Governments and ISDR system partners to provide more support to National Platforms. Andreas Goetz, President of the Swiss National

Platform, PLANAT, stated that there is a need for a minimum safety level, which is being challenged through the potential for increased damage, limited land resources and the impact of climate change. Since the solution lies in an “integrated approach” – the involvement of all actors, the inclusion of social and environmental aspects, the consideration of all types of disasters and the building of international solidarity – we must build on National Platforms for DRR in order to address these challenges and find answers.

Ablay Sabdalín, Deputy Minister for Emergency Situation & National Platform Focal Point in Kazakhstan, noted that the NP has been strengthened through the adoption of a DRR action plan and priority areas of the strategic plan had been implemented to improve government strategies to strengthen prevention. Mr. Sabdalín pointed out that Disaster Risk Management (DRM) related legislation provides a role to civil defence, fire fighters, air rescue divisions and others. Frameworks for safety and security have been developed and hospital bases and disaster management centres have been included in the disaster management policy. He mentioned as challenges the insufficient monitoring systems such as hazard forecasting.

Krishna Pribadi, Chairman of Executive Board of Planas PRB/National Platform for DRR, Indonesia, advised attendees that Indonesia enacted a new disaster management law in 2007 and established the National Platform for DRR and a National Disaster Management Agency a year later. Local Platforms in several provinces have been established and the NP is working through sectoral working groups including one that focuses on climate change adaptation.

Janet Edwards, Coordinator of Sweden's National Platform for DRR, highlighted that climate change adaptation provides a new perspective for risk

assessments, revealing where new areas of research are needed, such as floods and forest fires. Ms Edwards highlighted the added value of the National Platform, providing a number of actors the opportunity to speak with a common voice and increase capacity for preparedness, as well as facilitating the accessibility of information and communication and providing training and support programmes to educate the public in DRR.

Luís Felipe Palomino Rodriguez, Chief of the National Institute of Civil Defence & Division General, HFA and National Platform Focal Point for Peru, referenced his country's high exposure to almost all hazards, including the threat of future hurricanes as a result of climate change. General Palomino underlined his country's interest to exchange and learn from the experiences of other countries in risk reduction and management. He pointed out that the National Platform has a broad range of stakeholders and a strong national system for disaster management. One of the NP's key objectives is to formulate a DRR policy.

Ana Elizabeth Cubias Medina, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs in El Salvador, pointed out that DRR has been enshrined in her country's law. The National Platform is led by a technical service for territorial studies and includes the Finance Ministry. It does not yet include NGOs but relies on churches for awareness-raising. The National Platform has set up a working group on climate change and an advisory committee for civil protection. In addition to seeking sufficient funding, Ms Cubias noted that the National Platform also needs further political tools for DRR and the participation of all sectors.

Mr. Makala Jeffrey Ngaka, Assistant Director, Post Disaster Recovery and Rehabilitation Directorate, Agricultural Disaster Risk Management, South Africa, told delegates that a National Disaster Management Framework has been established. The National Platform is called National Disaster Management Advisory Forum (NDMAF) and includes all stakeholders from private sector and civil society to serve as an Advisory Forum. It meets quarterly to discuss upcoming hazards. Mr. Ngaka observed that more needs to be done to engage

in preventive work and to link up with SADC and other African countries.

Koffi Hounkpe, Ministry of the Environment and Forestry Resources and HFA National Platform Focal Point, Togo mentioned that the legal framework for risk reduction in Togo stems from the Environment law of 2008. The Ministry of Environment and Forestry is in charge of coordinating the multi-stakeholder National Platform for DRR. The objective of the NP is to make DRR a tool for poverty reduction and development, currently the NP is working on a DRM strategy and an annual work plan. The NP also reviews technical and material needs of key institutions in the academia and meteorological services. Mr. Hounkpe highlighted some of the NP's successes, including involving young researchers into National Platform work; creating a school manual on DRR in the form of a comic strip; and conducting a climate change study.

Lars Bernd, Programme Officer National Platforms, UNISDR secretariat, delivered a presentation on his agency's work on National Platforms, referencing UNISDR support to establish and strengthen National Platform both through guidance documents, best practice documentation, information sharing by email and websites and in-situ technical support.

Lorena Aguilar, Global Senior Gender Adviser of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), launched IUCN's "Policy and Practical Guidelines on making Disaster risk reduction gender-sensitive". She reminded participants of the importance of making DRR and the work of National Platforms more gender sensitive in composition and action in order to address the complexity of disasters and the different ways hazards affect women and men. Gender gaps and deaths related to natural disasters are linked, increasing the deaths of women compared to the deaths of men in countries that do not consider women rights. Guidelines have been developed on mainstreaming gender into DRR. Ms Aguilar pointed out that the involvement of women into risk assessment mapping has to be ensured. Gender sensitive early warning systems and the





use of gender sensitive indicators are needed and should be applied.

Delegates at this meeting agreed that gender mainstreaming must be an integral part of all National Platforms and several delegates stressed the positive role women have been playing in their respective national DRM systems. All agreed that women stand at the forefront in their communities, not only sensing disasters first but in the frontline of response. Several representatives noted the participation of women in the work of National Platforms but more needs to be done to ensure their inclusion and participation. In Senegal, for example, the network of women has been integrated in the National Platform as an important partner.

Karl-Otto Zentel, Chief Executive Officer, German Committee for Disaster Reduction/National Platform, Germany, presented an initiative of several European NPs to prepare recommendations

for adoption by NPs worldwide. Mr. Zentel explained that the objective was to clarify the position of National Platforms in the ISDR system as well as to ensure their voices are heard in the Global Platforms.

Helena Molin-Valdes concluded the meeting by facilitating the setting up of a mechanism to finalise the National Platform recommendations for submission to the Global Platform the following day.

All agreed that the discussion proved to be useful on several levels, offering helpful insight and suggestions on funding mechanisms, gender, the channelling of communications and information on the variety of approaches to make National Platforms work better. This meeting recognised the increasing number of NPs and the rising importance of their voices, both nationally and internationally.



Global Platform  
for Disaster Risk Reduction



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Second Session  
14-15 June 2012

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# Annex 1

## Joint statement by the six members<sup>1</sup> of the ISDR Management Oversight Board: the Way Forward

A critical window of opportunity is open to us – to make 2010 the year of Investment and Action. The Copenhagen Agreement must include disaster risk reduction as an essential element of climate change adaptation, and serve as the catalyst for renewed and invigorated political commitment and action.

Setting clear targets – backed by political commitment – is the next step on the road to more effective mitigation of disaster.

We, the six members of the International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction Management Oversight Board, in order by 2015 to halve the number of deaths from disasters and to reduce significantly economic losses, therefore call for targets to be set as follows:

1. By 2010, establishment of clear national and international financial commitments to DRR, for example to allocate a minimum of 10% of all humanitarian and reconstruction funding, at least 1% of development funding, and at least 30% of climate change adaptation funding to disaster risk reduction.
2. By 2011, a global structural evaluation of all schools and hospitals and by 2015 firm

action plans for safer schools and hospitals developed and implemented in all disaster prone countries with disaster risk reduction included in all school curricula by the same year.

3. By 2015, all major cities in disaster prone areas to include and enforce DRR measures in their building and land use codes.

To achieve these targets requires development of comprehensive national disaster risk reduction programs; inclusion of drr in all national strategic initiatives, such as Poverty Reduction Strategies and National Development Plans; development of minimum safety net programs in the poorest and most vulnerable communities to increase basic resilience; and strengthening of early warning systems linked to strong community empowerment and preparedness.

Achieving these targets will be challenging but can be done. Even now, some of the world's poorest countries are reducing the impact of disasters. We will give our full support to those who need it – by committing all of our networks, resources and know-how.

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<sup>1</sup> The World Bank, IFRC, UNEP, UNDP, WMO, OCHA

## Annex 2

### Summary Report on Meeting of Parliamentarians at the Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction - 18 June 2009

We, parliamentarians from Argentina, Austria, Cambodia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Finland, Indonesia, Kenya, Namibia, the Philippines, Senegal, Turkey, and Uganda, and GLOBE (Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment) Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, met at the Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva on 18 June 2009.

The main objective of our meeting was to share information, experiences, and ideas on the role and responsibility of parliamentarians in reducing the risk of disasters and the impact of climate change.

In the opening, the Chair emphasized that promoting disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation is our shared responsibility; one that transcends political affiliations and geographic boundaries. Moreover, the parliamentarians from the Philippines and the African Group reported on the progress made in advancing disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation at national and regional levels.

We, parliamentarians fully recognized the important role we can play in integrating DRR into socio-economic development through legislation, policies and budgetary allocations and in bridging the existing gap in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework at local, national, and regional levels. We also recognized that investing in DRR is essentially investing for a safer future and that participation in and ownership of such process is the best way forward.

We, parliamentarians are also highly committed to help create a political environment for facilitating the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and promoting the linkages between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation with gender considerations. In this

regard, the following are among our related concerns and actions:

1. Advocate for DRR in legislature and executive governance, across political parties, and promote coherent policy, greater awareness, and a culture and mentality of prevention among politicians;
2. Appreciate the cross-cutting nature of DRR and ensure its systematic mainstreaming in legislation and budget appropriations;
3. Enhance UNISDR support to the parliamentary process of mainstreaming DRR, through existing global, regional or sub-regional parliamentary fora and help desks;
4. Address the concern over the lack of budgetary capacity and fiscal incentives of Governments for building institutional capacity, community awareness and fulfilling their potentials as drivers of DRR;
5. Seize opportunities to link the DRR agenda to that of civil society and private business groups including trade associations;
6. Advocate for swapping developing country debt for DRR commitment and interventions, which has been done for ecosystems regeneration and protection, and for making DRR a criteria for ODA, to be articulated in ODCE and ahead of COP15;
7. Encourage donor countries to integrate DRR in their development aid budget, to provide supplementary support for climate change mitigation and adaptation to developing countries, and engage parliamentarians of recipient countries in the process;
8. Lobby the parliamentarians in both debtor and donor countries to make DRR assessment a precondition for any ODA instrument, and to ensure that most support for DRR and climate change adaptation is granted to benefit grassroots communities in line with the recent thrusts of the European Union;

9. Explore the possibilities for increasing investments in DRR from the existing national budgets for development and earmarking a share for institutional capacity building including awareness raising;
10. Set up a national DRR platform in every country which shall be replicated at regional and local levels and shall facilitate exchange of best practices among countries.

We, parliamentarians concluded that an extraordinary awareness-raising effort is urgently required at all levels, from parliamentary assemblies to schools; that DRR and CCA are important development and human rights issues; and that women are a key driver for building community awareness and resilience. To this end, we agreed to focus on increasing the awareness and understanding of parliamentarians on DRR and CCA related issues through the following immediate actions:

1. The IPU shall serve as a global platform for engaging politicians in DRR and CCA through awareness campaign at the next IPU assembly in Bangkok in 2010;
2. The Costa Rican Parliament will host a regional parliamentary consultation on DRR and CCA in 2009;
3. Chad will host the Central African consultation supported by UNISDR and the African parliamentary group in 2009;
4. Parliamentarians from recipient countries shall lobby their colleagues at the European Parliament and inform their scrutiny of the European Commission Communication on the EU Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in Developing Countries;
5. The Mediterranean Assembly in partnership with UNISDR and other parliamentary networks will organise a global parliamentary meeting to further increase understanding among parliamentarians on DRR in the context of socio-economic development (tbc).

## Annex 3

### Recommendations of National Platforms to the Chair and participants of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

National Governments, county, municipal and local self governments all play a leading role in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), including through National Platforms as nationally owned and led forum or committee of multi-stakeholders which contribute to the implementation of the HFA.

In its “Guidelines for National Platforms for DRR”<sup>2</sup>, the ISDR system closely interlinked National Platforms with the Global Platform for DRR: “In the Global Platform for DRR, the National Platform for DRR is foreseen as the principle national institutional arrangement to:

- Improve the coherence of international action on DRR at all levels;
- Advocate and share knowledge among practitioners and experts; and
- Provide reviews and evaluations of national progress in DRR.”

National Platforms for disaster risk reduction and their establishment have been recommended in a number of United Nations General Assembly Resolutions (e.g. A/RES/62/192 on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction<sup>3</sup>). In his report, “Implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction” (A/63/351)<sup>4</sup>, the UN Secretary General stated: “Building on the good experiences of existing national platforms, Member States are strongly urged to develop and strengthen such national coordination mechanisms for disaster risk reduction.” The final declarations of Regional Platform meetings have likewise highlighted the need to develop National Platforms for disaster risk reduction.

Multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder National Platforms are understood as providing coordination,

analysis and advice to help governments mainstream Disaster risk reduction into development and sectoral programmes, plans and policies, thus, having the potential to be a key instrument for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action at the national level. They bring together all the actors of risk management: experts, civil society, scientists and practitioners, from NGO, governmental authorities and private sector. This is even more important as the Hyogo Framework for Action clearly states that implementation of disaster risk reduction takes place primarily at the national and sub-national level.

National Platforms, through their members and jointly, are therefore in a position to advocate and assist in integrating disaster risk reduction into all relevant policy agendas and development plans. At the same time, through their proximity to vulnerable communities, they possess the legitimacy and potential to support mainstreaming activities at the regional level as well as – through their governments – at international fora.

National Platform representatives gathered in Geneva during our global meeting on 15 June 2009, wish to convey the following recommendations to participants and the Chair of the second session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction:

Nations should:

- Continue to expand their human and financial support to develop fully functional National Platforms as a means to support accelerated implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action at local, regional and national levels;
- Support the development of National Platforms as multi-stakeholder structures

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about\\_isdr/isdr-publications/03-guidelines-np-drr/eng-guidelines-np-drr.pdf](http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/isdr-publications/03-guidelines-np-drr/eng-guidelines-np-drr.pdf), Annex I, p.12-13

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about\\_isdr/basic\\_docs/GA-resolution/a-res-62-192-eng.pdf](http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/basic_docs/GA-resolution/a-res-62-192-eng.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about\\_isdr/basic\\_docs/SG-report/SG-report-63-351-eng.pdf](http://www.unisdr.org/eng/about_isdr/basic_docs/SG-report/SG-report-63-351-eng.pdf) (IV,(a),39)



including private sector, NGO and civil society to

- Facilitate the integration of disaster risk reduction in various sectors, as a contribution to achieve sustainable development in the framework of the Millennium Development Goals (e.g. poverty reduction strategies);
  - Take into account specific vulnerabilities of social groups (e.g. gender, age, ethnicity, etc.) in disaster risk reduction strategies;
  - Enhance the participation of gender-balanced and community-based organisations in disaster risk reduction.
- Use the capacities and lessons learned from National Platforms to develop coordination mechanisms and strategies for DRR at the local level;
  - Facilitate and co-ordinate links between climate change adaptation focal points, and National Platforms for DRR, to avoid parallel mechanisms and to link existing expertise in order to reduce the human impact of climate change;
  - Officially declare existing multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms as National platforms if approved by the country's government or self government and as requested by the Hyogo Framework for Action;
  - Identify and appoint disaster risk reduction focal points in various key Government ministries, as the ministerial focal point persons are key in the coordination and implementation of disaster risk reduction activities at the ministerial portfolio level;
  - Enhance information-sharing and exchange with other existing National Platforms through UN/ISDR facilitated networks and other National Platform channels;
  - Promote capacity-development in DRR within National Platforms and develop common strategies through exchange of experiences with other countries on regional and international levels through information sharing and communication.

The UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, through the UNISDR Secretariat, should:

- Organize and maintain a standing international forum of National Platforms for disaster risk reduction, in order to mobilise their potential for the implementation of the HFA in a participatory manner, and in order to support information exchange and coordination;
- Facilitate the development of a system of cooperation between National Platforms and the UN/ISDR secretariat by defining the roles and responsibilities of the secretariat. As an example, the UN/ISDR Secretariat should channel all information and communications with countries through National Platforms, where existing. The Charter of the National Commissions to the UNESCO<sup>5</sup> may serve as a blueprint;
- Provide greater support and higher visibility for the National Platforms by integrating a presentation of the activities undertaken by National Platforms into the agenda of each Global Platform;
- Facilitate and co-ordinate links between climate change adaptation and DRR, to avoid parallel mechanisms and to link existing expertise in order to reduce the human impact of climate change;
- Enhance advice and technical support by UN/ISDR to the development of National Platforms and national strategies for DRR based on the five priorities of the HFA.

Other ISDR system partners, including regional organisations, bilateral development agencies, non-governmental organisations and the private sector should:

- Continue to expand their technical and financial support to National Platforms for DRR, through a more systematic information-sharing and cooperation on DRR related activities;

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<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001337/133729e.pdf>, p.141ff

- Promote the development of HFA focal point institutions and National Platforms as critical operational organisation tool for more efficient and effective local and national implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;
- Strengthen mechanisms, at the national, regional and international levels, to support preparedness, emergency response and recovery at the local level;
- Establish, in those countries where it is needed, sub-regional funds for disaster risk reduction to enhance awareness raising, training, risk assessment, and ICT in order to improve availability and rapid exchange of information for enhanced disaster risk management.

# Annex 4

## List of Participants

### Government Delegations

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Rep of the, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Etiopía, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Rep of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Korea, Rep of, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Macedonia, The former Yugoslav Rep of, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Níger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Palestinian Territory, Occupied, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tanzania, United Rep of, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Bolivarian Rep of, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

### UN & International Organizations

CCCC - Commission on Climate Change and Development  
ECLAC - Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean  
FAO - Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations  
GEO - Group on Earth Observations  
IOC - Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission  
IPCC - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
ICHARM - International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management  
ICDO - International Civil Defense Organization  
IFRC - International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies  
ILO - International Labour Organization  
ITU - International Telecommunication Union  
IUCN - International Union for the Conservation of Nature  
UNCRD - United Nations Centre for Regional Development  
UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund  
UNCCD - United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification  
UN/DPI - United Nations Department of Public Information  
UNDG - United Nations Development Group  
UNDP - United Nations Development Programme  
UN-ESCWA - United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

ESCAP - United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific  
UNECE - United Nations Economic Commission For Europe  
UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization  
UNEP - United Nations Environment Programme  
UNFCCC - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change  
UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
UN-HABITAT - United Nations Human Settlements Programme  
UNIDO - United National Industrial Development Organization  
UNITAR - United Nations Institute for Training and Research  
United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service  
OCHA - United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs  
UN/OHCHR - United Nations Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
UNFPA - United Nations Population Fund  
UNRISD - United Nations Research Institute for Social Development  
UNU - United Nations University  
UNV - United Nations Volunteers  
WB - The World Bank  
WFP - World Food Programme  
WHO - World Health Organization  
WMO - World Meteorological Organization  
WWC - World Water Council

## **Regional & Intergovernmental Organizations**

NDF - ACP-EU Natural Disaster Facility  
AU - African Union  
ADPC - Asian Disaster Preparedness Center  
ADRC - Asian Disaster Reduction Centre  
ASRC - Asian Seismic Risk Center  
ASEAN - Association of South East Asian Nations  
CDERA - Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency  
CEPRENAC - Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central  
CAPRADE - Comité Andino para la Prevención y Atención de Desastres  
COMSEC - Commonwealth Secretariat  
COE - Council of Europe  
DPPI SEE - Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Initiative for South Eastern Europe  
ECO - Economic Cooperation Organization  
EC - European Commission  
LAS - League of Arab States  
OAS - Organization of American States  
PAM - Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean  
RCC - Regional Cooperation Council  
SOPAC - SOPAC - Pacific Islands Applied Geoscience Commission  
SAARC - South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation

## **Civil Society Non-Governmental Organizations**

ACT - Actions by Churches Together International  
ActionAid - ActionAid International  
AKDN - Aga Khan Development Network  
AIDMI - All India Disaster Mitigation Institute  
ADRRN - Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network  
BDPC - Bangladesh Disaster Preparedness Center  
CARE - Care International  
CRS - Catholic Relief Services  
CDP - Center for Disaster Preparedness  
Christian Aid  
Concern - Concern Worldwide  
DARA - Development Assistance Research Associates  
DWF - Development Workshop France  
EMI - Earthquake and Megacities Initiative  
SVE - European Volcanological Society  
FundaCRID - Foundation for the Coordination of Information Resources for Disaster Prevention  
GLOBE Europe - Global Legislators Organisation for a Balanced Environment in Europe  
GRF - Global Risk Forum  
Huairou Commission  
InterAction  
ICC - International Code Council  
IMC - International Medical Corps  
IRHA - International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance  
KWF - Korea Water Forum  
Mercy Corps  
NSET - National Society for Earthquake Technology  
Oxfam International  
Plan International  
Practical Action  
ProAct - ProAct Network  
Risk RED - Risk RED  
Saritsa Foundation  
International Save the Children Alliance  
Tearfund  
WSPA - World Society for the Protection of Animals  
World Vision International  
WWF - World Wide Fund For Nature

## **Private Sector**

ESRI - Environmental Systems Research Institute  
Dynamics Associates, LCC  
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR EMERGENCY TECHNIQUES

## **Academic & Research Institutions**

CRED - Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters  
DDC - Disaster and Development Centre  
GFMC - Global Fire Monitoring Centre  
ISET - Institute for Social and Environmental Transition  
CIIFEN - International Research Centre on 'El Niño'  
DRM - World Institute for Disaster Risk Management  
Lausanne University - IGAR – Institute of Geomatics and Risk Analysis  
Geneva University - CERG – Certificat de spécialisation en évaluation et management de risques

## **News & Media**

BBC

## **Networks & Others**

AIDA ADVANCING (ICT FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT) CONSORTIUM  
Advisory Group on Local Governments and URR  
Asia Regional Task Force on Urban Risk Reduction  
BOND - British Overseas NGOs for Development  
COGSS & DPE - Coalition for Global School Safety and Disaster Prevention Education  
CoRISK INTERNATIONAL  
Duryog Nivaran  
EU-CORD - EU-CORD  
GDN - Gender and Disaster Network, the  
Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction  
GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN FORUM

## **GLOBAL EMERGENCY GROUP**

GROOTS - Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood  
IAWE - International Association for Wind Engineering  
ICL - International Consortium of Landslides  
ICSU - International Council for Science  
IRP - International Recovery Platform  
Sovereign Military Order of Malta  
ProVention Consortium  
RADIX - Radical Interpretations of Disasters and Radical Solutions  
RICS - Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors  
STC - Scientific and Technical Committee  
SCHR - Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response  
UN Thematic Platform on Knowledge and Education  
UCLG - United Cities and Local Governments  
VOICE - Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies



# *Invest Today for a Safer Tomorrow*



International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

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