

Statement of

International Association of Earthquake Engineering (IAEE)
On the Plenary of the First Global Platform for Disaster reduction

International Association of Earthquake Engineering (IAEE) was founded in 1963 with the objective of promoting international cooperation among scientist and engineers in the field of Earthquake Engineering through exchange of knowledge, ideas, and results of research and practical experiences and damage lessons. IAEE has now 52 country and regional members from all over the world.

IAEE principal activities are:

1. Providing the technical and scientific know-how through publication of “International Journal of Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamic”
2. Organizing the “World Conferences on Earthquake Engineering” every four years. The 14WCEE will be held on October 2008 in Beijing.
3. Formation of World Seismic Safety Initiative (WSSI) in 1992. Professor Tsuneo Katayama, who is the current President of IAEE, established the WSSI with Professor Shah of the Stanford University to support the idea of the IDNDR of United Nation with personal donation and volunteers activity bases..

Major activities of WSSI have been as follows.

- 1) Assess the status of earthquake risk mitigation policies and plans in mainly Asian pacific Region where rapid urbanization of taking place.
- 2) Raise public and governments awareness of earthquake risk in the decision making sector.
- 3) High Level Meeting in Nepal, Myanmar, and Thailand since 1993. By these Meetings, awareness of earthquake preparedness is rapidly growing

- 4) Assembling unique international reconnaissance team for Gujarat earthquake in India 2001
- 5) By the SAFER City Project, 360 seismometers have been awarded to Armenia, Central India, Dalian China, Bagardesh,ect with cooperation of the COSMOS
- 6) World Bank, Kyoto University and WSSI joint project is developing the Guidlines for housing reconstruction in Band Aceh, Indonesia.

At the time of World Conference in Disaster Reduction (WCDR) in Hyogo 2005, we have introduced our New Initiative of IAEE including the spirit of WSSI. In this Initiative, we proposed many items for action.

Because of the time limitation, These actions can be summeralized in next 3 Categories.

- 1) Global awareness for earthquake mitigation
- 2) Development of Human Resources
- 3) Dissemination of knowledge and information

You can find the details at the Web site of ISDR

Last month, May 2007, I have completed the construction of the 85 Tsunami Height Memorial Poles at schools and mosks in Banda Aceh City , in Sumatra Island, Indonesia, with cooperation of local NPO Umi Abasha, and the Japan Embassy Jakarta.

These poles are now used for education of Tsunami Preparedness for long time safety of Aceh citizens.

Recently, IAEE is planning the cooperation with the seismological group, IASPEI, which will be explained by Professor Ashtiany.