



Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Second Session, Geneva, Switzerland
16 – 19 June 2009



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Invest today for a safer tomorrow

**The Second Session, Global Platform will take place at
CICG, International Centre of Geneva, rue de Varembe 17, 1202 Geneva
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Provisional Annotated Agenda

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Session 1 OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

- Keynote speech by the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon
- Opening statement by Mr. John Holmes, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, and Convener of the Global Platform
- Welcoming remarks by Mr. Hans-Rudolf Merz, President of the Swiss Confederation
- Opening Statements by Heads of State or Prime Ministers

Session 2 ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

- Item 2.1: Adoption of the Agenda
The Chair will introduce the Second Session's agenda and seek participants' endorsement.
- Item 2.2: Introduction of the timetable and session documents.

Session 3

Progress in Achieving a Substantial Reduction in Disaster Losses: Global and Regional Perspectives

This item will provide highlights on lessons, findings and recommendations from global and regional reports prepared since the Global Platform in 2007, and following the recommendations from that session. The reports take stock of the achievements and outstanding gaps in HFA implementation at different levels.

Global achievements and challenges in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action

- Presentation of the main findings from Global Assessment Report, HFA monitor, and new developments since the First Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2007, by Margareta Wahlström, Assistant Secretary General and Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Presentation of the report from the Scientific and Technical Committee for Disaster Risk Reduction, by Walter Erderlen, Chair, Scientific and Technical Committee (UNESCO ASG)
- Views from the Frontline - Presentation on civil society's contribution to implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action, by Marcus Oxley, Global Network of Civil Society Network for Disaster Risk Reduction

Regional achievements and challenges in implementing the Hyogo Framework for Action

With the Chair as moderator, regional intergovernmental organizations that have developed a regional report on the HFA implementation will present their main findings and recommendations

High Level Panel Discussions

See Timetable under Sessions (4, 8, 11, 15 and 18)

Five High Level Panel discussions of 1.5 hours each will be held in plenary over the four day 2nd Session with high-level panellists drawn from Governments, international financial institutions, UN and civil society organizations. Panellists will discuss ways to most effectively implement disaster risk reduction mechanisms in line with all the Hyogo Framework priorities. The panels are:

1. Progress and Challenges in Financing Disaster Risk Reduction
2. Reducing Risk in a Changing Climate;
3. Enabling Community-Led Resilience through Preventive Action;
4. Safer Schools and Hospitals; and
5. Building Back Better: Disaster Risk Reduction and the Recovery Opportunity

Inter-Agency task teams have prepared draft concept notes and work with UNISDR focal points in the organization for each panel. Moderators will be requested to be provocative and draw out main conclusions for action.

Session 4 High Level Panel 1 Progress and Challenges in Financing DRR

Session Objective(s)

In line with the overall intended outcomes of the Global Platform, the session aims to:

- Identify key issues related to risk reduction financing for the mid-term review of the Hyogo Framework. Such issues may include;
 - issues related to classification of investments e.g. stand alone vs multipurpose vs mainstreaming;
 - capturing investments in retrofitting;

- capturing investments in different sectoral budgets.
- Explore how to track and monitor progress once definitions of investment types have been agreed, and discuss for example;
 - global indicators to be used to assess a country's preparedness which measures progress against the level of risk specific to each country;
 - baseline data using agreed indicators and investment definitions;
 - methodologies for analysis according to investment definitions and agreed indicators;
 - appropriate processes for collecting data related to disaster risk reduction investment which does not burden national governments
- present concrete examples and provide specific insights on actions which can and should be employed to scale-up DRR investment and better track and monitor progress, and,
- increase investment and international commitment for dedicated resources for disaster risk reduction.

The session panel will consist of notable personalities with a strong substantive background and high profile in relation to development, humanitarian action and climate change. The Panel will address the issue of risk reduction investment through the lens of vulnerability from the following perspectives: sustainable development, climate change adaptation, humanitarian response and early warning.

Expected outcomes HLP Progress and Challenges in Financing DRR

- This session will showcase some key examples of country level initiatives to reduce risk, explore the challenges laid out above, and discuss the responsibility of international institutions to support up-scaling investment.
- The session will contribute to raising awareness among policy and decision-makers on the importance of investing in risk reduction in the context of sustainable development, climate change adaptation and humanitarian action.

Session 8 High Level Panel 2: Reducing Disaster Risk in a Changing Climate

Session Objective

The overall goal of this high-level panel is to highlight the practical linkages between disaster risk reduction and climate change, in light of the Global Assessment Report and experiences from the field, and to outline specific 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.

The session should result in clear messages to be communicated to the other Global Platform sessions and form the basis of a campaign for promoting disaster risk reduction measures in climate change adaptation plans, policies and programmes. The messages would cover the following aspects:

- Disaster risk reduction builds resilience and is a critical step in adapting to a changing climate. The Hyogo Framework for Action provides a framework for immediate action.
- Disaster risk reduction capacities establish the foundation for addressing long term trends in the changing climate.



- The linkages between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation should be communicated in simple language, using practical examples to support cooperation between the two areas.
- The Copenhagen agreement outcomes should aim to strengthen existing mechanisms for disaster risk reduction and hasten implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.
- There is a need for strengthened commitment and resources (financial, technical, information and political) for the provision of climate information, development of early warning systems, institutional capacity development, and sharing of experiences to improve the linkages between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation at the country level.

Expected Outcomes HLP 2 Reducing Disaster Risk in a Changing Climate

- A campaign is envisaged linking disaster risk reduction with climate change adaptation, to support synergies between sustainable poverty reduction and Millennium Development Goals;
- Disaster risk reduction is acknowledged as an essential component of climate change adaptation strategies and future funding is equally based on this principal;
- Governments are encouraged to secure the participation of disaster risk reduction officials and experts in preparation of national positions on climate change for COP -15 negotiations to be held in Copenhagen in December 2009.

Session 11 High Level Panel 3: Enabling Community-led Resilience through Preventive Action

Session Objective:

This session will focus on critical components of community level resilience and explore ways in which a national enabling environment can support local action.

High Level Panel 3 “Enabling Community-led Resilience through Preventive Action” will focus on ensuring community resilience to disasters through action on three interconnected issues: climate change adaptation, early warning and the protection of livelihoods. This session will review the need to develop, in parallel to offsetting end-to-end EWS and livelihood vulnerability assessment and livelihood risk reduction programs in high-risk areas, effective climate-related information systems. Such a system would link development policies and programs to risk reduction measures and livelihood recovery planning and preparedness, including food security.

Expected Outcomes HLP 3 Enabling Community-led Resilience through Preventive Action

- Encourage and support cooperation between national and local governments to implement disaster risk reduction at the local level.
- Include a review of experiences related to local action and national enabling environments in the mid-term review of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

- Support 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 budget.
- Design programs and dedicate national budget resources to the development in high risk areas of livelihood risk reduction measures and livelihood recovery preparedness in parallel with life-saving pre-disaster preparedness measures
- Review the experience of existing models and promote the further development of mechanisms for direct support to communities. Identify a dynamic grassroots leader to represent the perspective of at risk communities and raise specific issues with leaders of national governments

Session 15: High Level Panel 4: Safer Schools and Hospitals

Session Objective:

Review worldwide progress on the construction of safer schools and hospitals.

High Level Panel 4 “Safer Schools and Hospitals” will review progress on building safer schools and hospitals world-wide by analyzing progress so far on structural and non-structural elements including risk awareness-raising. Panelists from select geographical regions will provide experiences from global, national and local levels to illustrate both successes as well as challenges for providing safe environments both in schools and hospitals. Participants will also be informed by the background paper, which presents statistical evidence and draws lessons from the implementation of the ISDR World Campaigns on “Disaster risk reduction begins at school” (2006/2007) and “Hospitals Safe from Disasters”. A key consideration for the debate will be the question 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.

Expected Outcomes HLP 4 Safer Schools and Hospitals

- A shared understanding of the critical factors required to effect a change in policy and practice at national and local level (drawing on the successes and challenges presented during the session).
- The identification of regional, national and local mechanisms (including cross-sectoral collaboration) or modalities that can be supported by either national platforms or the wider ISDR system.
- A set of suggested targets up to 2015 (these are still being discussed)
- The announcement of a new initiative to enhance multi-stakeholder involvement in building safer hospitals through a “Health Platform” like cooperation, recently discussed at a WHO workshop in Tunis.

High Level Panel 5 Building Back Better: Disaster Risk Reduction and the Recovery Opportunity

Session Objective(s)

To take stock of the effectiveness with which we are reducing risks in post disaster contexts, inviting country representatives from three countries that have undertaken large recovery operations in recent years to share their experiences.

The preparations for this High Level Panel are led by the World Bank, UNDP/BCPR, UNICEF, World Vision, IRP Secretariat, IFRC and ILO.

The Panel will identify 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 context. These issues will provide the basis for the moderated discussion and a 5 minutes video on recovery experiences will be presented including information on the Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). Panellists will be invited to provide their perspectives and solutions in order to promote a building back better culture.

Expected Outcomes HLP 5 Building Back Better: Disaster Risk Reduction and the Recovery Opportunity

By 2011

- Ensure 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;
- Develop a tracking system to monitor the quality of post disaster rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes

Official Statements – See Timetable under Sessions 5, 9, 12, 16, 19

Provision of time is foreseen in the agenda during Tuesday 16-Thursday 18 June in Plenary for delegations to provide 3 minute official statements. All delegations have been encouraged to favour written statements to be circulated whether statement is delivered orally or not.

Informal Plenary – See Timetable under Sessions 6, 13 and 20

An Informal Plenary session is scheduled from Tuesday 16 - Thursday 18 June, between 16:30-18:30 open to all participants. To ensure participation at the most relevant level among system partners, the invitation to the Second Session requested that delegations select one representative to attend the Informal Plenary.

The purpose of the Informal Plenary is to continue discussions on key issues emanating from the Global Platform interventions and panels with a view to advancing the HFA implementation by 2015, and to initiate the process of the HFA mid-term review. There will be room for specific



additional roundtable discussion, such as on urban risk with Mayors or follow-up to specific topics raised in High-Level panels during the Informal Plenary. The discussions will inform the Chair's summary and support the main outcomes of the Global Platform session, which will provisionally focus on the following considerations:

- Recognition of the need to address a clearly linked and specific agenda for climate change and disaster risk reduction;
- Clear expressions of commitment by governments 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 accelerating national and local implementation; and
- How best should the ISDR System support countries to implement the HFA.

A background report will be tabled to guide the Informal Plenary discussions. It will include a section on the process planned for the preparations towards HFA mid-term focussing on linking institutional arrangements being developed in both the climate change and disaster risk reduction fields.

The Chair's summary will not be a negotiated document and the Informal Plenary will not serve as a Drafting Committee. It will provide for broad consensus building and deliberations, and more in-depth focus on key issues that will be captured in the Chair's Summary.

Session 22 Keynote presentation – (tbc)

Session 23 Chair Summary and Close of Session

The Chair will read aloud a prepared draft Chair's Summary and will open the floor for discussion. He will then invite the raising of other business.

The Chair will express appreciation to all UNISDR system partners for their contribution to making the Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction an important milestone in preparation for the interim review of the HFA in 2010 and the lead-up to COP-15 discussions scheduled for December 2009, Copenhagen, Denmark.

The Chair will close the session.

Version 9
14 May 2009

