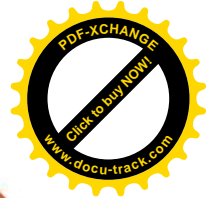


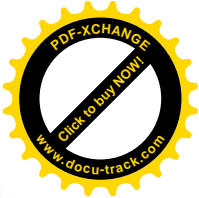
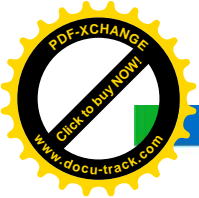
Centro de Coordinación
para la Prevención
de los Desastres Naturales
en América Central

CEPREDENAC



**STATEMENT of the Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural
Disasters in Central America
- CEPREDENAC -**

**Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
Geneva, Switzerland
June 16-19, 2009**



TOWARDS A CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY FOR AN INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT: A REGIONAL CHALLENGE TEN YEARS AFTER MITCH

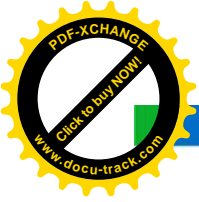
The Coordination Centre for the Prevention of Natural Disasters in Central America, CEPREDENAC, as a regional body specialized in this matter created under the framework of the Central American Integration System (SICA), was instructed in different mandates to facilitate and coordinate the ongoing efforts for the application of the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America and the implementation of the Regional Disaster Reduction Plan (PRRD). In order to comply with these mandates and to influence effectively in the incorporation of the risk management and vulnerability reduction in the development policies of the region, Governments and National Congresses of the Central American countries established the New Constituent Agreement of CEPREDENAC, in force since July 12, 2007.

Currently, the risk management is included in multiple regional management incentives for water, environment, agriculture, health, and public works, among others. Additionally, with the support of the international cooperation many new projects have been carried out to reduce the vulnerability and generate capacities from local and community levels to national levels and in the same process of Central American Integration.

Under this point of view, this year CEPREDENAC began an interinstitutional coordination process with the purpose of working in the construction of a **Central American Policy for an Integrated Risk Management**.

A policy that has an integrated approach and includes human rights, gender equity, and interculturality will enable us to intertwine the risk management with the economic management, the social cohesion management, and the environmental management observing the institutional competences and mandates. This way, the Central American integration bodies may articulate their efforts in favor of this equitable, socially inclusive, economically competitive, and environmentally sustainable development.

Through the Policy, it is possible to contribute significantly with the Region's international commitments, such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the Hyogo Framework for Action, and the adaptation to the climate change, as well as to deal with some of the new regional challenges.



The execution of the Regional Forum MITCH+10, which was proposed so that in its time the region's main actors and organizations can generate inputs, suggestions, and contributions for its formulation and implementation, is considered a priority within the construction process of the **Integrated Risk Management** policy.

The Central American Policy document: **Integrated Risk Management** awaits its approval from the region's Governments so it may be incorporated in the nation's agendas as a priority in the plan for development.

The integrated (multisectorial) spirit of the Policy has prompted a consultation effort and a search for alliances with other SICA Secretariats, which competence topics are essential for the Development and Risk relationship.

Finally, it is worth highlighting that the construction process of the Central American Policy for an Integrated Risk Management and the execution of the Regional Forum MITCH+10 have the technical and financial support of different members of the International Cooperation.

We hope that the future implementation of the Policy represents a real advance for the region's sustainable and safe development under the framework of the Central American Integration System, and that it may serve, in turn, as reference for other regions of the world such as those attending this important meeting today.

Ivan Morales
Executive Secretary