



Swedish Civil
Contingencies
Agency



ISDR

United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction



Summary of the 1st Meeting of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction (EFDRR)

6th-8th October, 2010
Stenungsund, Sweden

Outcome Summary: Decisions Made and the Way Forward

The following represents a list of the decisions and focuses that were made during the meeting and that can be used as a basis for work in 2011 and beyond:

1 Global Platform

- Representatives from National Platforms (NPs) and HFA Focal Points are encouraged to participate in the 3rd Session of The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction which will convene in Geneva from the 8th-13th May 2011.
- The EFDRR requested that UNISDR facilitate a side event for European National Platforms and HFA Focal Points. The meeting will also provide the opportunity to exchange information on how to develop a National Platform as well as to emphasize the work being done by the HFA Focal Points and Platforms.
- The value of organizing a global National Platform and HFA meeting at the Global Platform was pointed out. Exchanges during such a meeting should include lessons learnt from recent disasters such as the one in Asia.
- UNISDR created a dedicated webpage and e-mail address to collect comments and suggestions and will offer, as requested, electronically moderated discussions for the preparations of the Third Session of the Global Platform.

2 EFDRR Concept Paper

- The EFDRR Concept Paper was finalized in May 2010 but some minor editing revisions will be made. The final edited version of the Concept Paper will be circulated by the Chair before the end of 2010.

3 UNISDR and Regional Organization Activities

- A number of events and activities undertaken during the year by UNISDR and each of the regional actors were presented as well as the future steps in advancing DRR;
- The pilot media training workshop organized by UNISDR was held the 15th -16th of November 2010.
- The European Commission emphasized that there is a wide range of funding instruments available on DRR issues among the commission. Details and information are available in the different DG websites including DG ECHO.

4 Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

- The role of the National Platforms has been identified as key in the process of bringing the two scientific communities as well as DRR practitioners together.

- National Platforms and HFA Focal Points are invited to share their experiences and success in showing examples on how climate change adaptation and DRR have moved forward at the national level. The existing task force on climate change adaptation and DRR can continue to embrace this issue as well as informing, sharing and when possible influencing European regional policy papers and documents emerging from the European Commission.
- In February 2011, the Second-Order Draft of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report will be circulated. The opportunity for commenting on and reviewing this report should be used. A more prominent role of the private sector in CCA and DRR is encouraged.
- UNISDR pointed out how the “*Briefing Notes on CCA and DRR*” represent a good source of information related to key concepts, good practices and examples on how to move forward these issues at the national level and within the NPs.

5 Information Sharing and Exchanges

- The participants agreed on the need to continue and strengthen exchanges on DRR. Seminars/ conferences emerged as a valuable form of exchanges, followed by exchanges of experts and twinning of National Platforms and HFA focal points.
- The following topics were identified as particularly relevant for training, exchange of experts and sharing of lessons learnt: capacity development, national platform building as well as risk mapping and assessment. In addition to National Platforms and HFA Focal Points, the scientific community and local level practitioners should be also part of the expert exchanges. Financial assistance is needed for these exchanges.
- UNISDR will produce a monthly e-bulletin to increase awareness on news, activities and progress in Europe. The first issue will cover the month of November.
- UNISDR will create a workspace for the EFDRR (accessible only to EFDRR members) on Prevention Web. This workspace will allow for the EFDRR to exchange draft documents and facilitate discussions. It was also agreed that PreventionWeb will include key documents related to the forum, to increase visibility of EFDRR.
- Participants agreed to develop a brochure on EFDRR for easy reference and knowledge. UNISDR will facilitate this process based on guidance from the Chair, Co-Chair and the Friends of the Chair.

6 HFA Monitoring and Mid-Term Report

- Participants agreed on the added value to stimulate the national exchanges on DRR issues.
- UNISDR provided a summary on deadlines for submitting the interim reports (31 October 2010). It was pointed out that after this date inclusion in the GAR analysis cannot be guaranteed. The reports received until December will be included in the HFA Report for Europe (to be launched at the GP).
- UNISDR provided an update on the next steps related to the HFA Mid-Term Review that will include one-on-one interviews as the launching of the HFA Mid-term Review report in March 2011.

7 2010-11 World Disaster Reduction Campaign

- The EFDRR members pointed out the value of the campaign, particularly in reaching the local level communities. Participants agreed to encourage the local governments in their respective countries to join ‘Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready!’ Campaign and will actively the campaign and share experiences at the regional and global level.

8 Chair and Co-Chair 2011/2012

- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will be the Chair for 2011. Croatia will serve as Co-Chair in 2011 and Chair the year after. Sweden, the outgoing Chair, will be a new member of the ‘Friends of the Chair’ group.

9 Other Focus areas for the EFDRR in 2011

- In addition to the above identified areas of interest (climate change adaptation, campaign on making city resilient, information sharing and exchanges) the harmonization of risk mapping and assessments including data collection) the topics of media and awareness raising, local level / community level approach including protection of critical infrastructures such as hospitals and schools, and cost-benefit analysis case studies, were considered as relevant in the context of EFDRR exchanges for 2011.

10 Follow-up after the Meeting

- A written summary shall be made available after each annual meeting. PowerPoint presentations, the participant list will be posted on PreventionWeb under the event entry and in the EFDRR workspace.

- The task force on Climate Change Adaptation and Information Sharing will continue their exchanges.
- It was agreed for the next EFDRR meeting to take place in October 2011. Before then the EFDRR will come together on the occasion of the GP. The Chair will communicate with the EFDRR on developments related to the EFDRR meeting at the GP and the organization of the next EFDRR event to be held in October 2011.

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Detailed Minutes of the Meeting

1 Opening of Session and Summary of Activities in 2010

Helena Lindberg, Director General MSB, Mette Lindahl Olsson, Chair

Helena Lindberg, Director General for MSB, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, opened the meeting with an introductory speech about the current state of disaster prevention. Mette Lindahl Olsson, Sweden's HFA Focal Point presented an overview of the key events that the Chair and the Co-Chair had organized and/or participated in during 2010. The following events were included: January, an initial constituting meeting took place with UNISDR in Geneva during which the Chair and Co-Chair discussed the tasks for the year particularly in organizing the EFDRR meeting in October. February, the Chair presented experiences on NPs development in Cairo at a PPRD South Training Workshop on "Disaster Risk Reduction: Mechanisms, Tools and Methodologies in the field of Civil Protection". March, the Council of Europe-EUR-OPA hosted the 'Friends of the Chair' meeting to plan for the annual meeting and other events for 2010. April, there was a Director Generals (Civil Protection) meeting between Sweden and the Russian Federation in Stockholm during which the Chair invited EMERCOM to the first meeting of the EFDRR. In the spring the Chair worked intensively as a member of the Advisory Group for the HFA Mid Term Review. May, there was a special session on European National Platforms at the Global Risk Forum's 3rd International Disaster and Risk Conference (IDRC), Davos. The event was organized by the Chair, Co-Chair, UNISDR, Council of Europe, and UNESCO. June, the Co-Chair travelled to Washington D.C. to attend the 'Understanding Risk Forum' including the conference 'Understanding Risk: Innovation in Disaster Risk Assessment'. July, the Co-Chair presented the EFDRR at the International Workshop on reducing water-related risks in Europe, which was co-organized by the European Commission's Directorate-General Research and UNISDR. September, the Chair and Co-Chair met in Skopje to finalize preparations for the annual meeting and to discuss lessons learned during the Swedish chairmanship. The Minister of Interior expressed her commitment to the chairmanship of the forum in 2011 which will be presided by Dr. Pande Lazarevski. In September, the 12th Ministerial Session of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement was held in St Petersburg where the Council of Europe EUR-OPA, UNISDR and the Chair of the EFDRR spoke.

2 Concept Paper for the EFDRR and Global Platform 2011 and the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Moderators: Mette Lindahl Olsson, Chair, Dr Pande Lazarevski, Co-Chair, Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe

Mette Lindahl Olsson, MSB, as Chair for the EFDRR, presented the Concept Paper for the EFDRR. The European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction was formally established in London 2009. EFDRR members are HFA focal points and representatives from National Platforms for DRR in Europe, the European Commission, Council of Europe EUR-OPA, DPPI, RCC and UNISDR.

The Concept Paper states that the EFDRR has a bottom-up and participatory approach and that it will meet on an annual basis. It will not act as a political forum and the forum cannot speak for the interests of the member countries. The concept paper was finalized in May 2010 but might need minor editorial changes/updates. The organization of the forum consists of a Chair and Co-Chair and a steering group consisting of the Chair, Co-Chair, UNISDR, the Council of Europe, and the European Commission. There is also a 'Friends of the Chair' group" with the Chair, Co-Chair, UNISDR, the Council of Europe, DPPI, the European Commission, countries that have hosted similar meetings (France, Germany, UK) and the outgoing chair. UNISDR serves as the secretariat with the support of EUR-OPA. There will be working groups/task forces for identified areas related to DRR and the results of their work will be presented at the annual meetings.

The overall objectives and goals of the EFDRR are to contribute to the implementation of the HFA; support the development of National Platforms as multi-stakeholder structures; provide advocacy for effective action to reduce disasters; create a safer Europe by reducing the impact of natural hazards, that is, to reduce vulnerability, and increasing the ability to minimize consequences of disasters; enhance information sharing and exchange between existing national platforms and focal points; promote exchange of experiences, good practices and dialogue between regions and share information about the activities of other international/regional organizations and the EU in the field of DRR.

Focus areas and activities identified by NPs and HFA Focal Points are adaptation to climate change and extreme weather events, facilitating the link between climate change adaptation and DRR; local level /community level approach including protection of critical infrastructures; harmonizing risk mapping and assessments including data collection as well as creating a rational structure for operation and the functions of the EFDRR.

Countries with similar risks or similar organization should work together in a strategic and long-term manner. Cooperation is already ongoing between some countries. It is important to create synergies between platforms and share experiences. Those countries that are geographically close should work on common issues and exchanges between two countries with similar DRR issues to address should be encouraged as well.

Paola Albrito, UNISDR, provided information about the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction with a focus on opportunities for National Platforms and HFA Focal Points and regional dimension. The meeting will take place from the 8th -13th of May 2011 in Geneva. Significant issues to be addressed at the GP 11 will be the economics, costs and benefits of disaster risk reduction, impacts of climate change and links with poverty and vulnerability, the need to apply risk reduction understanding from a local perspective as well as disaster risk reduction and post-disaster reconstruction following from the last chair's summary and post-Haiti and Pakistan. National Platforms and HFA Focal Points are invited to share their questions and ideas regarding the content and structure of the GP 2011.

Among the expected outcomes will be exchanges/views on the next steps/framework on DRR following 2015. The HFA Mid-Term Review will provide suitable elements to address this issue. The European regional dimension will be reflected by regional statements and presentations made by, tentatively, the EU through the Hungarian presidency, the European Commission and the Council of Europe. Opportunities for NPs and HFA Focal Points will be tentative formats such as pre-session events, side events, round tables, media events, the market place as well as the feed-in of outcomes/recommendations into the Chair's Summary. It was considered useful to arrange a side event for national platforms including the EFDRR, especially as the Global Platform meeting is a good opportunity for giving visibility to the European Forum and for platforms from various regions to meet each other. A suggestion was made that side events such as the national platform meeting, have a higher profile. Another possible side event was suggested for the Global Platform meeting, linking search and rescue efforts to the 2010-11 World Disaster Reduction Campaign 'Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready!', as INSARAG (International Search and Rescue Advisory Group) signed a Hyogo Declaration in 2010.

3 Update on the Activities at the International and Regional Level in the Field of Disaster Risk Reduction

Moderator: Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe

3.1 Updates on UNISDR Activities

Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe

UNISDR's Parliamentarian Initiative promotes advocacy among parliamentarians including partnership-building with sub-regional and regional parliamentary fora and assemblies. Technical support and guidance is provided to parliamentarians who become advocates and champions for greater synergies between disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The results of the Parliamentarian Initiative are, inter alia, the following: More than 900 parliamentarians from 130 countries are advocates of DRR in the context of climate change and development. Five parliamentarians from Argentina, Costa Rica (former), Kenya, the Philippines, and Senegal actively promote DRR. A new project about legislation on DRR-CCA was prepared by the Senate of Mendoza (Argentina). The West African Parliamentarians Meeting resulted in a Plan of Action for integrating disaster risk reduction into the eight areas of the MDGs in June in 2010. On the 6th of October 2010 the Advocacy Kit for Parliamentarians 'Disaster Risk Reduction: An Instrument for Achieving the Millennium Development Goals' was launched at the 123rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

In terms of private sector engagement, a private sector concept and a work plan have been developed. The establishment of a private sector advisory group is underway. On 13th of October, this year's International Day for Disaster Reduction, an event with participation from private sector representatives will be organized. The SRSG participated in several major private sector meetings, including the Global Compact Summit 2010. Since 2008, the World Bank and UNISDR collaborated with the Regional Cooperation Council for South Eastern Europe (RCC SEE) to establish the South Eastern and Caucasus Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (SEEC CRIF). The objective of the facility is to promote the access to insurance and re-insurance products for disasters (risk transfer) among SEEC homeowners and SMEs. The facility is managed through a public-private

legal entity Europa RE - which was incorporated in Switzerland in December 2009. Governments are joining the facility by purchasing Europa Re shares. Albania was the first country that joined.

For the Global Assessment Report & HFA Monitoring there are a total of 58 interdependent activity streams underway to feed into the four main sections of GAR11. There will be an enhanced analysis of global risk patterns, trends and drivers, a second round of progress reporting (2009- 2011) for the Hyogo Framework of Action, effective disaster risk reduction strategies will be defined and an enabling environment for disaster risk reduction will be identified. UNISDR will develop the Regional HFA report for Europe with an analysis of the European national and regional progress reports. The study will provide an update and showcasing of achievements, advances and key trends in disaster risk reduction in Europe from 2010-11 and provide insight into progress made since the last reporting cycle and the uptake of conclusions and recommendations.

In the context of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, UNISDR supports the IPCC Special Report 'Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX)'. UNISDR is advocating for enhanced political commitment and national investments in climate risk reduction. UNISDR is also promoting the availability and uptake of information on climate risks and risk-reduction adaptation strategies. In addition, UNISDR is supporting greater coherence and coordination of climate-related disaster risk reduction among international and regional actors. In Europe the three main focus areas of UNISDR in relation to climate change adaptation are: 1) coordination and capacity building for effective use of resources among European actors involved in climate change adaptation and DRR; 2) production of knowledge on weather hazards and coping mechanisms which can be adopted at all levels to enhance communities and households resilience; and 3) advocacy for enhanced financial and political commitment towards investments in climate change adaptation and DRR.

Regarding capacity development on a global level, UNISDR has developed with the Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI) a training tool for local governments in the context of the 'Making Cities Resilient' Campaign. A new website has been launched (www.cadri.net). In Europe there is collaboration with DPPI SEE, MSB and ISDR partners on the implementation of the Disaster Management Training Programme (DMTP) in SEE. Capacity developments are also included in the context of the EC PPRD South's EUROMED programme (Italy, France, Egypt, Algeria and UNISDR) where the DRR agenda is also advanced through trainings on NP developments delivered to the beneficiary countries (the Chair

3.2 Update from Council of Europe- EUR-OPA

Eladio Fernández-Galiano, Executive Secretary, the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA) of the Council of Europe

The 12th Ministerial Session of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement was held in St Petersburg in September. These meetings take place every 4th year. Serbia has joined the EUR-OPA agreement and attended the meeting. There is agreement among the members of the EUR-OPA agreement that climate change can have adverse affects and that it is important to reduce vulnerability in European countries. An effort should be made to develop a charter about risks, protecting populations and making cities resilience. It should state that the rights of the citizens to be protected from disasters. More information can be found in EUR-OPA's brochure "Facing Risk Together".

The Ministers agreed that work on ethical issues was important and an action plan for 2011-2015 was adopted. The Council of Europe is advocating CCA/DRR work. The Council of Europe is promoting the building of National Platforms. Progress has been made in this area. Mr. Fernández-Galiano encouraged the group to use the network that we have to continue working together to build platforms.

3.3 Update from the European Commission

Thomas de Lannoy, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG ECHO, Civil Protection – Prevention & Preparedness Unit

The EU Civil Protection Mechanism is the framework for cooperation for disaster response to natural and manmade disasters inside and outside the EU. The EU Civil Protection Mechanism consists of 31 participating states and the European Commission.

The Civil Protection Unit was moved to DG ECHO and more disaster prevention activities have commenced. Accomplishments in the field of prevention include the following: The European Parliament's own initiative

report (ENVI) with contributions from relevant EP committees (AGRI, REGIO, LIBE) was adopted in the September plenary (21 September 2009). The Council Conclusions on a Community framework on disaster prevention within the EU were adopted on 30 November 2009. The Council Conclusions on prevention of forest fires within the EU were adopted on 26 April 2010.

During 2010 work has been done in collaboration with the European Environment Agency (EEA) and specific stakeholder groups. EEA is currently preparing a report on the impacts of natural hazards and technological accidents in Europe 1998-2009. Moreover, it has held an expert meeting related to hazard and disaster data in Copenhagen with the EEA in May 2010, where information needs and data gaps were discussed. The meeting conclusions are available from EEA.

Key ongoing activities for prevention include developing EU guidelines on risk assessment and mapping (2010) and building on existing Member States experience in risk assessment to identify best practices. Other activities include a project called 'Innovative Solutions for Financing Disaster Prevention' taking up the Council Conclusions on uses of EU funding, disaster risk insurance and transfer solutions. In this context, there will also be compiled a catalogue of prevention measures that can be financed by EU funding. The best practices programme leading to EU guidelines on minimum standards for disaster prevention is scheduled to be in place in 2012.

Main activities for international cooperation are an emphasis on disaster prevention in upcoming cooperation initiatives with third countries, coordinating with the International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and ensuring close ties with the EU Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction in developing countries.

Prospects for the future are an overview of the major risks the EU may face in the future based on national risk assessments (2012). In terms of preparedness, 'Towards EU Disaster Management Training Arrangements' (EUDMTA) will be facilitated based on a network of national training centres.

3.4 Update Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative, South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE)

Orhan TOPCU, Head of DPPI Secretariat

DPPI SEE member countries and DPPI SEE partners have initiated, developed and implemented various projects during the past half decade and today DPPI SEE is working on several projects in the SEE Region. Key stakeholders of DPPI SEE are National Disaster Management Authorities from the SEE region, line ministries, other institutions/organizations, NGOs, the media, civil society groups, etc. Further key stakeholders are international and regional institutions, organizations and agencies as well as the international donor community. One of the main projects is the Disaster Management Training Program (DMTP), which is prepared on the basis of needs, interest and training capacities of the SEE countries. The main goal of the DMTP is to enhance disaster preparedness and prevention in the countries of SEE through common disaster management education and training. End users and beneficiaries are disaster management authorities from both national and local levels. Further projects include joint firefighting and joint emergency response units for floods in SEE.

DPPI SEE provides support to DRR programmes and national platforms and has also developed a regional strategy for preparedness and prevention. Furthermore, it cooperates and coordinates among different organizations and initiatives active in the field of disaster management in the region and facilitates regional project facilitation and implementation by applying international standards.

4 A New Disaster Management Structure in Turkey

Kerem Kuterdem, Geological Engineer, Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency, Prime Ministry Turkey

A new disaster management structure was established in Turkey after a new legislation went into effect in 2009. The key is implementation and putting the law into practice. The more decentralized system is made up of a single national coordination body and bottom-up responsibility is in place with power given to the local authorities. Turkey changed its disaster management structure in 2009 by merging three previously responsible actors. The new organization is established under the Prime Ministry and called Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency (AFAD). AFAD is responsible for implementing and coordinating pre-disaster works such as preparedness, mitigation and risk management, syn-disaster works such as response, emergency aid as well as post disaster work such as recovery and reconstruction.

Moreover, Turkey has developed a National Climate Change Strategy Plan 2010-2020. Next steps include a National Earthquake Reduction Strategy Plan which will be launched in 2011 a National Disaster Reduction Strategy Plan which will be launched in 2011 or 2012. Research and development studies are continuing, legal arrangements (Unification and Restructuring of Laws and Regulations) are being devised and the establishment of a NP for DRR is foreseen. Moreover, the effective coordination amongst various stakeholders at both national and local levels will be intensified, more regional and international collaboration and local sources to DRR and disaster response and recovery processes will be integrated more effectively.

5 HFA Mid-Term Review and HFA National Reporting

Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe

The HFA Mid-Term Review is a broad strategic review of the HFA with a focus on the instrument as a whole. It is an analytical exercise based on qualitative research and coincides with the MDGs Review. Qualitative methods are used to gather information, ranging from a literature review, via outcomes of structured regional and thematic workshops, in-depth studies and on-line debates to one-on-one interviews with senior experts and policy makers. Main points raised in the workshops were that the HFA plays an important role in raising awareness and creating institutional/policy basis for DRR, that there is a strong need for in-country coordination and direction as well as to articulate vertical synergies between national and local level. Moreover, there is a lack of research/hard data/cost benefit analysis at the national level and the need of increased coordination amongst UN agencies dealing with DRR at the country team and global level.

The purpose of the HFA Monitoring is self-assessment, to assist countries in reviewing their own progress, gaps and challenges in Disaster Risk Reduction efforts, to have a continuous feedback mechanism for the countries – the reporting is for the country and led by the country. Process enhancement in the 2009-2011 cycle are greater geographic coverage, multi stakeholder involvement, greater involvement of the civil society organizations, alignment of local and national level progress monitoring as well as the incorporation of quantifiable and disaggregated indicators. Improvements in the HFA monitor tool are the addition of a set of ‘Key Questions’ and ‘Means of Verification’, improved overall interaction design, the visualization of HFA progress input and access to regional organizations.

In order to be analyzed for the Regional Report and Global Assessment Report, the national interim reports should be submitted by the 31st of October 2010. The regional report will be compiled during the winter with additions made in the spring of 2011. About 22 countries in Europe are planning to submit their reports. The Regional HFA Report for Europe will be completed in cooperation with the national platforms and will present the accomplishments but also identify the gaps and improvement areas. National reporting will bring about new areas for cooperation. The publication will be launched at the Global Platform 2011.

6 Welcome by the Director of UNISDR during Dinner at the Hotel

Sálvano Briceño, Director, UNISDR

During the dinner at Stenungsbaden’s waterfront restaurant Kookaburra Sálvano Briceño, Director of UNISDR gave a speech. After touching on how the EFDRR came to being, he stressed the need for regional cooperation given the alarming figures and recent events at both the global and European level especially in the times of our changing climate and increasing climate-related risks. Governments have recognized the urgent need for climate change mitigation and adaptation. He added that there is a changing focus world-wide from just preparing to respond to disasters, to a broader notion of risk reduction and management of the underlying causes and effects, as key elements of sustainable development and in particular of adaptation to climate change. This is bringing a positive shift in tackling risks posed by climate change worldwide. Regarding the HFA implementation, Mr Briceño stated that National Platforms for DRR have been established in 16 countries, which is an increase of 45% from 2008 and that In the last HFA reporting period (2007-2009), 17 European countries completed the HFA report, underlining that the main strategic goal is to anchor the principle of a culture of risk. Addressing some gaps and challenges in implementing the HFA and reducing disaster risk in Europe, Mr Briceño said that Regional cooperation programmes addressing DRR are still financed mainly through emergency aid, which is not sufficient and that there is also a need of standardization of data gathering on vulnerability trends in Europe and for enhanced approaches for multi-risk analyses through intensifying the research and dialogue between the scientific community and policy makers. After a brief overview of UNISDR activities, he reminded of the Global Platform session last year, where specific objectives for the road ahead were set. These include increased investment in disaster risk reduction, which is a fundamental requirement, the integration of disaster risk

reduction into climate change adaptation and development planning, the acceleration of community resilience and livelihood protection, and a programme to accelerate disaster-proofing of public buildings, especially schools and hospitals. Mr Briceño closed by calling for maximizing the synergies at all levels and at the EFDRR in particular.

7 Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

Moderator: Dr Pande Lazarevski, Co-Chair

7.1 From Adoption to Implementation - The German Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

Karl-Otto Zentel, HFA Focal Point, German Committee for Disaster Reduction DKKV

There are aims and basic principles of the national adaptation strategy (NAS). Germany works on climate change adaptation issues worldwide and is looking at identifying the major impacts and what can be done. Mr Zentel reviewed the German NAS process and the next steps.

There have been adaptation conferences on 1) research activities of the Federal Environmental Agency on climate change adaptation – November 2009 and 2) research initiatives of the Federal Government on CCA – August 2010.

Examples of research projects include KLIMZUG on regional adaptation management, GLOWA on impacts of climate change on water bodies, water supply and water management, KLIWAS on impacts of climate change on shipping and waterways, and spatial impacts of climate change on the development of planning instruments for CCA.

The development of indicators to monitor the implementation of the NAP is in process. These are jointly developed with the Länder and environmental ministries building on the work of the European Environmental Agency (EEA), and have links to the national strategy for biodiversity and the national strategy for sustainable development. The first draft was developed between 2008 and 2010. A research programme is being carried out in order to consolidate the first draft (2009 – 2011) and the remaining gaps are to be closed as of 2011.

The first midterm review of the implementation will be undertaken in April 2013. The German national plan encompasses more aspects than disaster risk reduction. Additional information can be found on the web site: www.anpassung.net (in German)

7.2 2P2R process in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Ljupco Ristovski, State Counsellor for policy analyses and coordination, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

2P2R stands for “Prevent, Prepare, Respond and Recover”. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia disaster risk reduction is incorporated in a national doctrine, consisting of strategies for the specific risks, policies and legislation. Within each specialized platform, there are DRR methodologies, assessments, scenarios, plans and procedures. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a number of relevant sectors are working on climate change issues.

The country’s strategic framework encompasses several key points, such as the national sustainable development strategy, which was adopted in January 2010. The National Platform for DRR was established in 2009. Other points include the National Environmental Investment Strategy that has the potential of attracting foreign investments as well as the development of national climate change indicators. A draft National Strategy for Adaptation of Health Sector is also in the making. Additionally, a national strategy for complex energy development was adopted in 2010 and is valid until 2020.

The climate change adaptation strategy in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia includes climate scenarios. Vulnerability assessments have been conducted in cooperation with the agriculture sector, forestry sector, biodiversity sector, water resources sector, and the human health sector. Estimates have been made of future climate change impact to the rivers Vardar, Treska and Bregalnica. The future needs include an inter-sector action plan on adaptation, building a stronger knowledge base as well as taking climate change impacts into consideration in key policies: Financial needs are to be identified, combining different policy measures for the best effect, and supporting wider international efforts on adaptation.

The Copenhagen Communication proposes that all developed countries should be required to draft comprehensive national adaptation strategies to ensure that costly and recurring climate impacts can be prevented as far as possible. Better tools and know-how to design and implement adaptation strategies need to be developed. National institutions and international cooperation should be strengthened to disseminate knowledge and technologies for adaptation and climate resilient development.

7.3 IPCC Special Report: “Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX)”

Jonas Vevatne, Senior Advisor at National Emergency planning College, Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning, Norway

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report will help governments learn to adapt to climate change by drawing upon the long experiences in managing and reducing the risk of extreme climate events such as floods, droughts, storms and extreme temperatures. It will provide the first systematic assessment of governments’ experience in risk reduction practices for climate change adaptation by reviewing the guidelines, frameworks and tools used by various institutions, organizations and communities. It encourages governments to 1) build the institutional basis for reducing vulnerability and risk; 2) develop early warning systems; 3) strengthen community capacity and social resilience, particularly among the most vulnerable; and 4) improve construction practices; and establish preparedness to respond to inevitable climate impacts.

Possible linkages between climate change and frequency of extreme events are part of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4 - 2007). It stipulated possible linkages to the predicted increase in intensity and frequency of extreme events, the Report stated that “...the type, frequency and intensity of extreme events are expected to change as Earth’s climate changes, and these changes could occur even with relatively small mean climate changes. Changes in some types of extreme events have already been observed, for example, increases in the frequency and intensity of heat waves and heavy precipitation events” (Summary for Policy Makers, WG I, FAQ 10.1, p. 122). The topics to be assessed in the SREX are the frequency, intensity and duration of extreme events, vulnerability as well as disaster risk reduction and climate change adaption. Special attention will be given to the overlap areas of these three spheres.

The approved outline of the SREX is 1) climate change: new dimensions in disaster risk, exposure, vulnerability, and resilience, 2) determinants of risks: exposure and vulnerability, 3) changes in impacts of climate extremes: human systems and ecosystems, 4) managing the risks from climate extremes at the local level, 5) national systems for managing the risk from climate extremes, 6) managing the risks: international level and integration across scales, 7) towards a resilient and sustainable future and 8) case studies.

In February 2010, the Zero-Order Draft was completed and circulated for informal peer review. In July 2010, the First-Order Draft was completed, circulated for first expert and government review. Currently, the feedback is being incorporated, and in February 2011 the Second-Order Draft will be finalized and circulated for another round of expert and government review. In August 2011, the Final Draft will be distributed to governments. In November 2011 there will be a session to approve the Summary for Policymakers and to accept underlying document.

The Norwegian Climate Adaptation Programme was established in 2007 and is managed by an inter-ministerial committee, which is headed by Ministry of the Environment. The secretariat of the committee is the Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning, linking DRR and CCA. The programme is intended to provide knowledge, exchange of experiences and competence building. The responsibilities are unchanged and remain at the municipality/county levels.

Activities of the Norwegian Climate Adaptation Programme are manifold, link DRR and CCA and include a website launched March 2009, the ‘Future Cities’ project with 13 of the largest municipalities (50 % of the total population) as well as a 3-day course on adaptation to climate change in societal planning for development/emergency planners and decision-makers at local level. Climate change maps, a handbook with guidelines and the Official Norwegian Report (2009-2010) have been produced.

7.4 A national framework for Climate Change adaptation in France

François Gérard, HFA Focal Point alternate, AFPCN, Ministère de l'Ecologie, du Développement Durable, des Transport et du Logement

France mentioned PEER report no. 1/2009 on European Adaptation to Climate change – comparing national adaptation strategies. The French National Strategy for CCA includes the following topics: increased knowledge, secure observation systems, information capacity development and awareness, a community oriented approach, fund raising, the use of legal and regulatory instruments, involvement of the private sector, focus on overseas territories and international cooperation. The strategy includes aspects related to water, risks, health, and biodiversity. There is a thematic domain with geographic areas such as coasts and mountains. 13 working groups have been established, consisting of experts on various topics including biodiversity, water, natural risk, health, agriculture, forest, fishing, energy, transport infrastructures, tourism, urban planning, finance, governance, education and awareness, and research. The National Plan for Climate Change Adaptation includes the definition of hazards and thresholds as well as reinforcement actions. These consist of knowledge, information, awareness about risks, knowledge on assets (data and mapping), development of multi-hazard approaches, providing disaster forecasts and vigilance, warning and crisis management as well as accounting risks in spatial planning. Further points of the plan are the introduction of risks in community planning documents, the development of methods for economic impact evaluation and the evaluation of DRR methods and devising multi-hazard approaches.

7.5 The EU White Paper: Adapting to Climate Change

Thomas de Lannoy, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG ECHO, Civil Protection – Prevention & Preparedness Unit

The European Commission is contributing to the establishment of a European framework to 1) improve the resilience of social and economic systems as well as ecosystems across Europe and in other parts of the world, 2) reduce their vulnerability to the impacts of climate change, and 3) ensure that crucial areas such as food security, human health, ecosystem protection, economic and social cohesion and energy supply are guaranteed. Phase 1 from 2010-2012 involves mainstreaming of adaptation into EU Community policies, Phase 2 from 2013 onwards represents the implementation phase of a comprehensive adaptation strategy.

The work plan includes 1) steering the implementation of the White Paper on adaptation to Climate Change for ensuring that an appropriate climate adaptation dimension is present in all Community policies, 2) developing an integrated adaptation strategy to climate change inside the EU from 2013 afterwards, building on the White Paper and 3) being responsible for relations with the most vulnerable developing countries and international negotiations on adaptation issues.

The work programme for the period 2009-2012 focuses on the implementation of the White Paper on Adaptation (adopted April 2009-COM(2009)147). The White Paper on Climate Change Adaptation discusses how to improve the resilience of social and economic systems as well as ecosystems across Europe and in other parts of the world. This includes reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and ensuring that crucial areas such as food security, human health, ecosystem protection, economic and social cohesion and energy supplies are guaranteed. For the work programme, an action plan is outlined on four pillars. Pillar 1 strengthens the Knowledge/Evidence Base. Pillar 2 promotes mainstreaming climate adaptation into key policy areas. Pillar 3 involves policy instruments for adaptation financing. Pillar 4 is stepping up international cooperation on adaptation. Humanitarian assistance in climate change adaptation is also addressed in the work programme.

The European Environment Agency, EEA, has a data centre on climate change, c.f. <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate> . The data centre includes inter alia information on Climate Change Adaptation, such as an overview on the national adaptation strategies, cf. <http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/climate/national-adaptation-strategies>

8 Information Sharing and Exchange

Mette Lindahl Olsson, Chair

8.1 Results of survey on Information Sharing and Exchange

Mateja Berglez, Senior Advisor for International Cooperation, Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief, Slovenia

Ms. Berglez described the aims of the survey, that is, to 1) explore the types of currently on-going exchanges and which ones are needed and 2) to learn whether countries are exchanging information on DRR issues and, if not, why this is not the case. For this purpose, a questionnaire was prepared by Advisory Group 2 members (Sweden, Slovenia, European Commission, and UNISDR), which included 11 short questions. 21 participants from the EFDRR answered the questionnaire.

The conclusion is the following: A clear yes for more exchanges. 95% of those answering the survey say that exchanges have to be strengthened. 75% of the respondents say that they need financing. Participation at seminars/conferences and information sharing via websites are the most common forms of exchanges in progress now. Additional seminars/conferences are seen as a most needed form of exchanges, followed by projects, exchange of experts and twinning. Financial support is needed for these seminars and conferences as well as for other forms of exchanges. There should be more informal regular contact between meetings. The topics for information sharing that were suggested/preferred are capacity development, building a national platform, risk mapping and assessment, and climate change adaptation.

Participation should be from both the national and local level and should include National Platform Representatives and HFA Focal Points. Face-to-face exchanges are desired. There is a need for scientists, disaster prevention experts and managers for strategy development to also be part of the exchanges, not just the HFA Focal Points and National Platform representatives.

UNISDR has and will continue organizing workshops on various topics with partners where European countries are invited to participate. The wish was expressed to work according to specific themes, allowing for exchanges between the EFDRR meetings. Exchanges between one country and another country or twinning should be encouraged. It also is encouraged to share experiences of the national platforms. Countries with similar risks or similar organizational set-ups should work together. Each country has its own approach in how they tackle disaster risk reduction. Twinning can be used to assist some European countries that wish to build their platforms. Those countries without platforms could invite countries with one or two platforms with experience and working platforms to share information about how their platforms are run. A suggestion was made that UNISDR should continue to act as a focal point for stimulating information sharing among partners and countries.

Most participants are familiar with PreventionWeb and many are using the information found there. The survey results showed that no need for additional web tools was expressed. Thematic groups could have their workspace on PreventionWeb and a partially restricted workspace will be created for the EFDRR. Subscriptions to news on certain themes are possible and can be received via email.

UNISDR has developed a concept note on enhancing information and knowledge sharing in Europe via a new monthly bulletin. This concept note describes the details of the new bulletin provided by UNISDR's Regional Office for Europe for promoting effective information and knowledge sharing among European disaster risk reduction actors. UNISDR will send out the latest information on upcoming events, conferences, projects, reports etc submitted by partners to PreventionWeb. This would be a compilation of news items from European countries in form of a new digital bulletin. The bulletin will be sent to HFA Focal Points, NP representatives and other regional partners once per month. UNISDR will also post the regional HFA report on a restricted web page so that the editions and improvements to the drafts can be made.

9 Using EU financial instruments

Thomas de Lannoy, Policy Officer, European Commission, DG ECHO, Civil Protection – Prevention & Preparedness Unit

A study on EU financing instruments has been made that is a critical analysis of instruments, an inventory of instruments and catalogue of measures. For prevention, five main areas of activities can be supported including risk identification and impact assessment, knowledge development, awareness raising, early warning and governance. The report will have an overview per instrument.

The main financing instruments at EU level are Cohesion Policy funding (ERDF, ESF, CF), Civil Protection (CPFI), Pre-Accession (IPA) and Neighbourhood Policy (ENPI), Rural Development (EARDF), Environment (Life+), Research & Development (FP7). The Cohesion Policy Programme for 2007-2013 planned co-financing of €6.5 billion on risk prevention with the focus on prevention/preparedness. There is a large scope of

interventions that are eligible under territorial cooperation (INTERREG). 20 Member States planned the use of Cohesion Policy funding on risk prevention. Training programme and exchanges of experts, PPRD East Programme can be used for DRR. For the Exchange of Experts Programme priority is given to operations. For more information on the Exchange of Experts for prevention, please visit the website of DG ECHO.

There are preparedness cooperation projects and preparedness training courses. The EC will launch an Exchange of Experts Programme for preparedness training courses. These exchanges will be a few days to max 2 weeks long per exchange and the programme will cover 200-300 exchanges. For preparedness, financing for simulation exercises is available and for prevention there are cooperation projects. The latter focus on long-term prevention and mitigation by improving risk assessment and management as well as on the promotion of the 'response-preparedness-prevention-remediation' chain. The European Commission encourages National Platforms to seek financing within the framework of the cooperation projects.

Possible actions on behalf of the EC include the publication of a Catalogue of Prevention Measures, upcoming communication on sustainable growth and regional policy highlighting risk prevention, Additional tools that could be developed are, e.g., more assistance in project definition and preparation, a clearer definition of the concept of "prevention", definition of success indicators, specific funding expertise, a prevention help desk, and targeted funding meetings. Moreover, actions could include more support for dissemination of results of projects, mainstreaming of prevention into EU instruments, prevention financing in international for a, the fostering of collaboration and knowledge transfer among member states.

The European Commission is working with innovative solutions to the financing of disaster prevention including risk transfer solutions. It also explores how to use innovative financial products to raise capital on the world capital markets. The objective is to lower the price of insurance.

Many platforms and HFA Focal Points are not familiar with the financial instruments or do not know how to write a project proposal. DG Research, for instance, offers information workshops on funding instruments. An event on the FP7 Environment Calls was hosted in July 2010.

10 Field Trip about Natural Hazards and Construction

On Thursday afternoon, 7th of October 2010, a field trip to the Göta River that drains into Gothenburg was organized. The programme started with a one-hour briefing indoors at the hotel during which time Ulf Gustavsson from the Emergency Management Department of the County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland gave an overview of natural hazards and constructions in the Göta River area. Bengt Rydell from the Swedish Geotechnical Institute demonstrated the transformation of quick clay from solid to liquid and back to solid. Jan Ekstrom from the Swedish Transport Administration told about the project Building Road and Railroad in the West. The bus trip through the Göta River had its first stop at a construction site in Surte where the participants looked at stabilizing the soil with lime-cement columns. Then the journey continued north in the valley and a stop was made in Göta to learn about landslide hazards. The field trip concluded with a reception and dinner in the beautiful sunset at the Watercolour Museum in Skärhamn. The group received information from the County Administrative Board and the Swedish Geotechnical Institute about how risks are taken into consideration in an area that is prone to flooding and landslides.

11 DRR at the Local Level: 2010-11 World Disaster Reduction Campaign Making Cities Resilient: My City is Getting Ready

Moderator: Michiko Hama, Programme Officer, UNISDR Regional Office for Europe

11.1 Updates on the 'Making Cities Resilient' Campaign

Michiko Hama, Programme Officer, UNISDR Regional Office for Europe

The objective of the campaign is to achieve resilient, sustainable urban communities through actions taken by local governments to reduce disaster risk. The three campaign objectives are as follows: Cities need to know more, invest wisely in DRR and build more safely. The '2010-11 World Disaster Reduction Campaign' was globally launched in Bonn, Germany on 30 May 2010. Since then, numerous regional launches and signing ceremonies have taken place the world over, inter alia, in Davos, Switzerland, New Delhi, India, Bangkok, Thailand, Lima, Peru and Shanghai, China, Durban, South Africa, Nis, Serbia and Albany,

Philippines. Regional partners in Europe include DG ECHO, EUR-OPA, EFDRR, DPPI, USAID and the World Bank.

At the time of the meeting 118 cities were participating, 28 cities had joined so far in Europe and discussions with numerous further cities were underway. On 30 September 2010, a signing ceremony had been held in Nis, Serbia where 18 Serbian cities joined the campaign with another 60+ to be nominated.

The essentials for the 'Making Cities Resilient' campaign are captured in a ten-point checklist. There will be monitoring of the implementation of DRR activities at the local level. Upcoming milestones for the campaign include the following: International Day for Disaster Reduction (activities world wide), the Sasakawa Award (focusing on urban risk reduction), regional and national capacity building workshops (material developed), piloting of the monitoring process, and a compilation of tools and a call for good practices. At the Global Platform meeting in May 2011 there will be a session dedicated to the campaign. Furthermore, several campaign events and campaign sessions at numerous meetings in Europe will be held in the upcoming months and in 2011.

As part of the World Disaster Reduction Campaign and with a specific focus on Essentials 5 and 7, the 'One Million Safe Schools and Hospitals Pledging Initiative' urges individuals or organizations to make a commitment to specific actions on any of the three components that could make schools and hospitals safer. These are public awareness, emergency and disaster preparedness, and disaster risk reduction.

11.2 Disaster Resilient Hospitals - an integral part of the 'Making Cities Resilient' Campaign

Dr. Gerald Rockenschaub, Regional Adviser, WHO Europe

WHO's objective in 'Crises' is to reduce the health consequences of emergencies, disasters, crises and conflicts and to mitigate their social and economic impact. The global trends are clear: There are an increasing numbers of health crises and disasters. At any moment 30–40 WHO member states are affected by a crisis. During the past 20 years, disasters have killed at least three million people; adversely affecting 800 million more.

The priorities for health risk reduction in the regional context are communicable diseases (influenza, pandemic, SARS, TB and HIV/AIDS, accidental or deliberate release of biological, chemical and radio nuclear agents, natural & human made disasters, conflicts and complex emergencies ("frozen conflicts"), global changes such as climate change. Health crises affecting the WHO European Region (1990-2008) show that most deaths have been due to extreme temperatures. Most economic damage has occurred due to floods.

WHO promotes 'Safer Hospitals'. All newly constructed hospitals should be designed and managed to function at the optimum capacity during and in the aftermath of disasters and emergencies. Well trained staff should be proficient in emergency management. Norms, guidelines and building codes are needed for new hospitals. Retrofitting of existing priority for facilities with low cost - high impact interventions, are needed. Assessments are being rolled out and include the application of the 'Health crisis preparedness' assessment tool, country crisis management capacity assessments and the use of the Hospital Safety Index.

The way forward to build resilient cities is an "all hazards/whole health" approach and an emergency preparedness programme. Exercises and drills are needed to test plans. Cross-border collaboration is essential since crises don't respect borders. Strengthened coordination and the use of a multi-sector approach are indispensable. Capacity building and sharing expertise can build resilience to disasters.

11.3 Mitigating Flood Hazards in the City of Karlstad

Klas Jansson, Director of Planning, Karlstad Municipality

Some of the Swedish Commission on Climate and Vulnerability observations include that the flood risk for lakes and watercourses will increase, mainly in western Götaland and western Svealand and in parts of Norrland.

Buildings and technical infrastructure, particularly, roads, railroads and drainage systems, will be affected. The cost of the increased flooding of buildings over the next 100 years has been estimated at between SEK 50 billion and SEK 100 billion. A 100-year water level in Lake Vänern would result in damage costs amounting to more than SEK 10 billion. The Commission's proposals include implementation of a new water discharge regime for Lake Vänern, guidelines for physical planning and building construction, increased preparedness, investigating alternative options for a long-term solution for increased water discharge of Vänern.

Karlstad Municipality is implementing a new water discharge regime for Lake Vänern, guidelines for city planning and building construction, flood risk analyses, and adaptation of building techniques to climate changes. Karlstad Municipality is taking these operative measures: a municipal rescue services action plan, the purchase of flood protection barriers, drilling flood situations, developing and documenting the organizational capacity, technical measures, control programme for the river Klarälven, safeguarding drinking water quality, and permanent flood barriers. Planning measures include guidelines for planning and building permits which were inspired by Norway, flooding analyses, the adaptation of building techniques to climate change as well as international, national and regional cooperation. Klarälven is a more evident threat than Vänern, although high levels in Vänern will occur more frequently. The new water discharge regime for Vänern is of utmost importance in the short-term.

11.4 Fragile and resilient: the Venice's paradigm

Dr. Pierpaolo Campostrini, Director of CORILA, Italy, on behalf of Venice Municipality

In the XIV century, the lagoon of Venice was different from today. There were 5 to 8 unstable inlets and a large extension of marshes, while large rivers were flowing into the lagoon carrying sediments. Six centuries ago, the risk of infilling of the lagoon was felt as real and huge interventions were made for diverting the river mouths out of the lagoon. Today the problem is somewhat reversed, as the lack of sediments does not balance the erosive processes and the sea level rise, causing the possible disappearance of the intertidal morphology which characterizes the lagoon habitat. The total surface of the lagoon today is made only for the: 8% land above sea level (littorals, reclaimed areas, islands, embankments) and 92% belong to the "water system": channels (11,9%), shallows, mud flats and salt marshes (80,1%).

The main factor of vulnerability for the city of Venice is the "acqua alta" (flooding), connected to the relative mean sea level rise. There is also fire hazard, mass tourism, environmental sensitivity and cultural heritage to preserve. A large part of the city area is subjected to flooding. It is in Italy's national interest to safeguard Venice and its lagoon. Italy has a special law for Venice (since 1973), where four integrated targets are set: to reach hydraulic equilibrium, to preserve environment from pollution, to reinforce socio-economic vitality, and to safeguard the architectural patrimony. There are different levels of administration involved (State, Region, Municipality). The Venice Municipality, through a specific office built "ad hoc" (ICPSM) provides tidal forecasting and managing an Early Warning System. The tasks of the ICPSM are: 1) sea level forecasting, managing a network of observation station of weather parameters and running a dedicate forecast mathematical model system 2) provide information and alarm to the city "users" (not only residents) in case of high water. The monitoring network has observed parameters for sea level fluctuations, meteorological parameters air pressure, wind velocity and direction, humidity, temperature. Satellite data is used, too. ICPSM has a webpage and a special page for media. There are information panels at the main entrances of the city (bus and train terminal) and there is an SMS system to warn the public via cell phone. Dr Campostrini demonstrated the acoustic alarm (with tonalities of different frequency, related to the level of risk) that is implemented with a network of 23 sirens placed on the principal Venice islands.

Prevention measures include raising city pavements. An extensive survey of Venice's pavement has been made with 1 cm precision. Flood inundation maps of the entire city have been made and "weak points" have been identified.

On the littoral, a sea wall and beach enhancement protect the shore. A new beach, 9 km long with 18 containment groynes, is connected by a submerged breakwater lie parallel to the coast. The only way to avoid sea-flooding is to close the inlet, therefore there will be tidal barriers. The adopted solution saves the lagoon and port is going to be finished in 2014. The protection system is called MOSE and is made of mobile flood barriers. They will lie on the seafloor and will be activated when there is a risk of flood, maintain the water level of the lagoon at the stated safety level.

Venice has a Municipal Emergency Plan that provides for emergency management and is addressed to diminish the risk probability. A fire risk map has been created with four risk levels and fire hydrants are being located in the most delicate areas in order to lower the risk. In the last years, the central part of Venice lowered down the fire risk from "high" to "moderate". Finally, Venice through CORILA, the consortium for managing the scientific research on Venice, is engaged in EU-FP7 Kulturisk, which will implement some tools (built on a knowledge-based approach) for helping to develop a culture of risk prevention in Europe.

11.5 Making Cities in Serbia Resilient

Ivan Baras, Assistant Head of Sector for Emergency Management, Ministry of Interior, Republic of Serbia, Olivera Kostic, Senior Advisor, USAID's Preparedness and Planning Program (PPES)

Serbia has increased its capacity and preparedness for emergencies with five steps to enhance local-level resilience, respond better to emergencies, communicate better with citizens, reduce the time needed to assess damage, and faster relief and recovery. Projects, emergency simulations, best practices fairs and conferences have been undertaken with the assistance of Pre-Accession funding.

The Law on Emergency Situations was adopted by the Serbian National Assembly in December 2009. The law defines activities, management in emergency situations; a system of protection and rescue of citizens, material and cultural goods from natural and man-made disasters. Besides, the rights and obligations of citizens, state agencies, autonomous provinces, local self-governments, companies and other legal persons and entrepreneurs are addressed. The law also regulates inspections and supervision, international cooperation and other issues relevant to organization, and functioning of the civil protection and rescue system. The Law on Emergency Situations institutionalizes a modern emergency management system in Serbia. The Sector for Emergency Management is recognized as a single body within the Ministry of Interior where all emergency services from MOI, MOD and Ministry of Environment are integrated.

Compliance with the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) is ensured through standards defined by the Law. A high level of local government involvement and decision-making authority in the area of disaster management is also ensured. The 'Enhanced Disaster Resilience' methodology based on Serbian law and international standards is defined by the HFA implemented through the USAID funded Preparedness and Planning Program. In accordance with the new Law on Emergency Situations, the Sector for Emergency Management is coordinating the activities regarding the adoption of the National Strategy for Emergencies, updated Emergency Plans and updated National Risk Assessment.

USAID's Preparedness and Planning Program builds a sustainable and systematic approach to local-level disaster management. The program helps municipalities be more resilient to crisis or disasters such as floods, wildfires. It has a strong local level focus on increased capacity and preparedness and includes actions for building relationships with partners (local, district, provincial, national; SCTM; universities; and NGOs). On the national level engagement there is the opportunity for dialogue and understanding local level issues. The programme is in action with 80 municipalities trained and 45 already certified: The intention is to respond better to emergencies, communicate better with citizens on emergencies, reduce the time needed to assess damage following a disaster, and increase the speed of delivery of relief and recovery assistance.

12 Working with the Media and Raising Public Awareness on Disaster Risk Reduction

Moderator: Tim Radford, The Guardian

Tim Radford from *The Guardian* in the United Kingdom discussed working with the media and raising public awareness on disaster risk reduction. Tim Radford has a long-standing experience reporting on natural disasters and presented the view from the media. He stressed that it is the NPs' and HFA FPs' responsibility to provide target-oriented information to the media to answer the questions they need to know. He also stated that if the correct information is not provided by the respective authorities within the timeframe that is set, then the media might present their own version. Moreover, terminology that the media can relate to should be used rather than technical language. By building a strong relationship with the media, you can affect what message is delivered and thereby raise public awareness for the subject.

A so-called 'Handbook for Multi-Media Reporting on Disaster Risk Reduction' is currently being developed by UNISDR. This handbook is a practical manual for media professionals in reporting on disaster risk reduction issues and will be made available in six languages. Moreover, Media Training Workshops will be held in all Regions with a pilot media training scheduled in Brussels for 15 and 16 November 2010.

13 Nominations for the Role of Co-Chair 2011 /Chair 2012

Moderators: Paola Albrito, Head UNISDR Regional Office for Europe and Eladio Fernandez-Galiano, Executive Secretary, Council of Europe EUR-OPA

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will be the Chair for 2011. UNISDR received a nomination for Croatia to be Co-Chair 2011 and then chair 2012. UK endorsed the nomination. UNISDR announced that Croatia would serve as Co-Chair next year and Chair the year after. Damir Cemerin, Deputy Commander of Civil Protection, accepted the nomination and thanked the group for the nomination, stating that Croatia was looking forward to working with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia during 2011.

14 Transfer from Chair to Co-Chair

Dr Pande Lazarevski, the Co-Chair for the EFDRR, thanked Sálvano Briceño, Paola Albrito and other members of the UNISDR staff for their support to the Chair and Co-Chair. He also thanked Mette Lindahl Olsson for hosting the ice breaker meeting. Dr Lazarevski invited Sweden as the outgoing chair to be part of the 'Friends of the Chair' Advisory Group. He also thanked the MSB for hosting the meeting in Stenungsund and all the background work to make it happen. Mette Lindahl Olsson turned over the chairman club to Dr Lazarevski. It is engraved with European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction with Sweden as the chair for 2010. Each subsequent chair will be responsible for engraving his country's name on the club. Dr Pande Lazarevski invited all of the participants to the next meeting of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be held in the fall of 2011 in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

15 Attachments

The attachments of this meeting summary are the following:

1. Programme for 1st Meeting of the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction
2. The EFDRR meeting participants list
3. Statement from Greece