



**Global Platform
for Disaster Risk Reduction**

Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland
8 - 13 May 2011



18 March 2011

UPDATE: 50-DAYS-TO-GO! DELEGATIONS MUST REGISTER NOW

**Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
and World Reconstruction Conference
8-13 May 2011 Geneva, Switzerland**

The devastating earthquake and subsequent tsunami in Japan that have left hundreds of thousands homeless, millions of homes without power and created a potential nuclear crisis have again shown the importance of disaster risk reduction. “The political, economic and social agenda is not complete if we can’t protect our wealth from the next earthquake or storm”, says Ms. Wahlström, the Secretary-General’s Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction. The Global Platform will be an opportunity not to be missed for leaders to meet, discuss and decide on needed commitment and action.

Please ensure to register urgently through our online registration system. The hotel situation in Geneva remains difficult; we therefore encourage early booking of hotel rooms in Geneva and surroundings. If you need a visa to enter Switzerland, please contact the Swiss representation in your country as soon as possible as the procedure takes a minimum of 20 days. Please make sure to register prior to applying for a visa as no application can be handled prior to registration.

Requests for travel funding from Least Developed Country (LDC) and Small Island Developing State (SIDS) should be submitted to the UNISDR secretariat with official Government letter as soon as possible and at the very latest by 30 March 2011. Delegations are invited to register their written statements to the Global Platform online. For details please visit the website: <http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011/information/>

The outcome document for the Global Platform and World Reconstruction Conference will be a Chair’s Summary. Background material that outlines main issues and topics from consultations and reports can be found in the previously circulated discussion paper (available on the website). Key messages, outcomes and actions stemming from the main sessions will also be captured for the final Chair’s Summary as well as the proceedings of the Global Platform.

Neil McFarlane

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