



**Statement of individuals and organizations concerned
with Gender Issues for**

**The 5th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk
Reduction, 22-25 October 2012, Yogyakarta, Indonesia**

We, individuals and from institutions concerned with gender; issues related to men and women, from countries in Asia and the Pacific attending the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (5th AMCDRR):

Noting that gender relations in a society determine the manner in which men and women are affected by, and deal with disasters and climate change. Although active in all stages of a disaster, women continue to be seen as passive victims and their roles and capacities in building resilience in communities are not recognized.

Noting that gender relations offer advantages to men over women in general; however men too, are also vulnerable in different ways before, during and after disasters.

Recalling the last four declarations of the AMCDRR have progressively called for inclusion of gender responsive commitments and actions. Despite that, desired changes are yet to made. We have increasingly understood how and why women are disproportionately impacted by disasters in the present social and economic context, where poverty, inequality, and other factors continue to make women more vulnerable in comparison to men. Good progress in relation to increased awareness and availability of tools has been made, yet as discussed, the challenges are many.

Noting remaining challenges such as development and DRR planning frameworks are not adequately reflecting gender issues due to existing lack of awareness, commitment, accountability, capacity, and/or resources.

At the conclusion of the 5th AMCDRR, participating individuals and from institutions concerned with these issues, wish to make the following commitments:

We commit to:

- Support national and local capacity development for gender responsive DRR and gender inclusive development planning
- Provide tools and methodologies, suggest a framework and share best practices for gender inclusion in existing processes
- Monitor the gender commitments of the 5th AMCDRR Declaration by national and local government and stakeholders by analysis of 1) ISDR Asia Pacific (IAP) meetings outputs, 2) HFA monitoring, 3) Views from the Front Line Survey; 4) research studies from local level
- Identify existing barriers to inform post 2015 consultations
- Promote independent monitoring mechanisms to assess the level of gender mainstreaming at national and local policies and practices.
- Strengthen the alliances of organizations, institutions, networks, working on gender in DRR, women's group and movements at all levels.

We call upon participants of the 5th AMCDRR to:

Make institutional commitment, more specifically for

- National and local planning administration institutions to reflect the importance of capturing different risks and disaster impacts on men and women and adopt participatory planning and prioritization processes to address the key issues related to different stakeholder groups. Greater commitment of resource allocation to gender and DRR.
- Regional and inter-governmental organizations to support gender responsive policy and practice change within respective governments, and facilitate the process through multi-country surveys on the impact of disasters on men and women, regional expert pools, capacity building initiatives, and the development and dissemination of methodologies and standards.
- Disaster Risk Management Plans to include issues around gender at all levels including protection and security for women and girls.

Increase accountability, specifically

- National governments to audit government policies, practices and monitoring mechanisms to assess the meaningful inclusiveness of gender concerns.
- All programs and resources mobilized for DRR to include independent, third party gender audits; and use existing mechanisms to secure and sustain political commitment in developing regional strategies.
- Evaluations to be carried out through independent research and disseminated publicly.

Make available and use appropriate tools and methodologies, more specifically for

- Tools and methodologies for sex and age-disaggregated data collection, gender responsive budgeting and resource allocation processes for DRR and CCA. Identification of risks (and special needs of women at all stages of disaster risk management), and options to address risks and resource mobilization should be gender responsive and disaggregated in forming the basis for local risk governance and risk financing. These tools and methodologies should attempt to adapt/improve existing mechanisms.

Create capacity, specifically

- Development partners, Inter Governmental Organizations and UN agencies to continue to invest in local capacity development to integrate gender, providing recognition where progress is made, and in monitoring the process.
- Capacity building institutions and organizations to build pools of expertise with the knowledge to apply tools and methodologies. Attention should be paid to the strengthening and use of existing capacities of communities; removal of barriers to provide space for women's voices in planning processes; identification of risks and vulnerabilities specific to men and women; and cultural specificities.
- Ensure that women and other vulnerable groups in disaster prone areas get equal opportunities for strengthening their existing capacities and resilience.

Increase coordination, more specifically for

- National Governments to plan and coordinate between institutions and organizations dealing with subjects ranging from Disaster Management, Climate Change, Gender and Women's issues, Social Services to Economic Development and Poverty Alleviation etc. to ensure integration of gender as a cross-cutting issue and allocate sufficient resources for a coordinated approach
- Local governments to create/use existing platforms for stakeholder coordination, ensuring meaningful participation of women and other vulnerable groups.
- UN Agencies to provide guidelines for institutional coordination.