



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

At the closing of the Fifth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (5thAMCDRR), we, participating Parliamentarians from (*countries to be inserted*), with contributions of Parliamentarians from (*countries to be inserted*) would like to make the following statement.

We concur to the previous Resolutions of Parliamentarians on disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, namely:

- *The Resolution of the 108th Inter-Parliamentary (IPU) Conference¹*, calling for international cooperation for the prevention and management of trans-border natural disasters;
- *The Resolutions of the 112th, 113th and 122nd and 123rd Inter-Parliamentary (IPU) Assembly²* that emphasize that disaster risk management is an important element for achieving the MDGs and sustainable development; stress the importance of implementing the Hyogo Framework For Action (HFA); and urge all parliaments to foster a strong political will and take actions.
- *The Manila Declaration for Global Action on Gender in Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction* (October 2008) that underscores the requirement for risk reduction measures that are gender responsive, sensitive to indigenous knowledge systems and respect human rights;
- *The Manila Call for Action of Parliamentarians on Applying Disaster Risk Reduction as an Instrument for Achieving the Millennium Development Goals* (November 2010), which called on Governments to allocate 1% of national development budgets for reducing disaster risks.
- *The Parliamentary Meeting on the Occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (December 2011)* called Governments to prioritize disaster risk reduction and capacity-building as cross-cutting issues and to give them their utmost attention. Also reiterated parliamentarians' commitment to assist their governments in implementing existing and future climate change and disaster risk reduction agreements.
- *The Dhaka Parliamentary Declaration* (March 2012), which commits to mainstream climate change adaptation and mitigation measures into parliaments;
- *The Declaration of the 7th Asia-European Parliamentary Partnership (ASEP, Vientiane, October 2012)* which affirms Asian and European Parliamentarians' commitment to address critical issues in disaster risk reduction and management for sustainable development.

We welcome the effort to systematically engage stakeholder groups in the Asian Ministerial Conference and in regional activities

In our role as lawmaker, people's representatives and political leaders, we commit to:

- Enhance our understanding of the subject through access to available information, interaction with experts and mutual support among parliaments and regional parliamentarians groups
- Support clear national policies for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and guarantee adequate funding for their implementation
- Make the right legislation to advance the policies, based on a good understanding of the policies and their importance
- Enhance our oversight functions. Measure the impacts of existing and future investments on reducing risk, both in qualitative and quantitative terms. Hold Governments accountable for investing in disaster risk reduction, especially given the limited resources.
- Raise awareness, build social demand and support actions to enhance gender and disabilities-sensitive disaster risk reduction, recognizing the important role and leadership of women and children.
- Support local government capacity building and financing for effective integration of disaster risk reduction into their local development plans

¹ In April 2003, see <http://www.ipu.org/strct-e/stcnfres.htm>

² In April 2005, October 2005 and April 2010 respectively, see <http://www.ipu.org/strct-e/stcnfres.htm>

- Bridge government agencies working in DRR and CCA and civil society at community, national, regional as well as international level
- Take action to advocate, sensitize and mentor fellow Parliamentarians, who are not familiar with disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, within our own parliaments but also others in the region and globally to sustain political commitment and leadership.
- Strengthen the networking of Parliamentarians in the region to address trans-boundary issues and the five main recommendations for Post-2015 DRR Framework

We call upon participants of the 5th AMCDRR and other stakeholders in Asia Pacific to:

- Strengthen the integration between science and decision-making. Consider placing scientific focal point in the Government – both at national level and for regional cooperation.
- Provide Parliamentarians with credible evidence through quality research: make the business case of disaster risk reduction through cost-benefit analysis and evidence of the return on smart investments in local communities; account for disaster losses, define who pays for disasters to create social demand for risk reduction measures and for policy intervention.
- Recognize the role of Parliamentarians and the need to enhance our capacity – to plan, to monitor implementation and to build support for resilience building.
- Consider the adoption of the Monitoring- Reporting and Making it Verifiable (MRV) mechanism in COP, in line with the protocols in each country and involving Parliamentarians to measure progress in risk reduction and resilience building.
- Deliver the pledged funds for climate change adaptation and clarify the plan to mobilize funding in medium and long term and transparent mechanisms for allocation
- Consider climate change mitigation as part of the framework to address the ultimate cause of increase in frequency and intensity of hazards, recognizing that there are limits to adaptation

Looking into the future, we recognize the need to place disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation central in the Post 2015 Development Agenda and any regional and national development strategies.

We commit to:

- Play a proactive role in the local and national consultations to develop the Post 2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, in synergies with the Post 2015 Development Agenda
- Raise awareness and promote inputs from people, and
- Encourage governments to link these two frameworks in the consultation process.
- Establish the Asian Advisory Group of Parliamentarians (AAGP) for DRR

We recommend the Post 2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction³ to consider:

- Developing regional targets and/or minimum requirements for risk reduction and resilience building, taking into account the most vulnerable groups within society. This is important to scale up actions and enhance regional cooperation
- Enhancing the mainstreaming of climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Focusing on building resilient communities
- Engaging policy makers in constructive dialogue to ensure the implementation of international agreement
- Building capacities of parliamentarians
- Promoting collaboration to respond to transboundary disaster risks

³ This session will be further developed based on the discussion of Parliamentarians at the pre-conference meeting of Parliamentarians at the 5thAMCDRR