



## Statement of Voluntary Commitments of Civil Society Organizations for the 6<sup>th</sup> Asia Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction

22- 26 June 2014

Bangkok, Thailand

The CSO Task Force is a group of civil society organizations in Asia that includes networks, international NGOs, national NGOs and grassroots organizations. The main objective of this group is to convene and advocate of behalf of member organizations in the ISDR Asia Partnership and in events such as the AMCDRR. The Asian Disaster Reduction and Response Network (ADRRN) currently leads the CSO Task Force. For developing joint positions on pressing issues in the region, the task force conducts periodic review processes on the commitments made in AMCDRR and other important events, carries out annual community resilience surveys, and publishes action research.

This statement of voluntary commitment has been developed through extensive community consultations that have taken place prior to the 6<sup>th</sup> AMCDRR in 8 countries, study of position statements by CSO member organizations, national networks and finally on the outcome of the pre-conference meeting at the 6<sup>th</sup> AMCDRR attended by over 130 organizations.

The actions stated herein are contingent on governments and other stakeholders recognizing the role of CSOs as equal partners.

1. Actions related to the three sub-themes of the conference (*1. Community Resilience 2. Public investments and 3. Private Sector engagement*)[ max. 6 actions to be implemented in 2-4 years time frame]
  - i. Promote and strengthen community-centered, eco-system based multi-stakeholder collaboration to address drivers of risk and vulnerability, through harnessing the power of volunteerism, systematic risk assessment, resilience building, and participatory monitoring.
  - ii. Make science, information, technology and innovation accessible, locally relevant, and culturally acceptable. Establish mechanisms for applying scientific and traditional knowledge to policy planning and decision making on building resilience to disaster and climate risk.
  - iii. Promote and strengthen local capacity building, prioritizing the role of women, children and youth, people with disabilities, and vulnerable, excluded groups as partners for

- resilience. Advocate for good governance and community leadership in DRR and resilience building.
- iv. Call upon governments and international actors to systematically increase investments in DRR financing<sup>1</sup> and climate change adaptation and mitigation; and create or strengthen financing mechanisms<sup>2</sup> which are accessible to at-risk communities, local government and other disaster-affected stakeholders; including prioritization of resources for the most vulnerable.
  - v. Pro-actively track and report on progress made on commitments made by governments in the 6th AMCDRR.
2. Actions related to evolving HFA2 priorities towards a) Risk Prevention, b) Risk Reduction, c) strengthening resilience – need to be based on the ‘Proposed elements Paper’]
- i. Actively promote a people-centered approach, ensuring the active participation of vulnerable and excluded groups in DRR decision making, planning and implementation, and advocating for the protection of their rights and entitlements. Promote strengthened risk governance systems and mechanisms at regional, national and sub-national levels, including promoting use of common tools and methodologies to systematically assess risk and reduce underlying causes with the guiding principles of equity, accountability, transparency, and decentralized decision making. Call for increased recognition, cooperation and investments in prevention and reduction of ‘every day’, small-scale disasters, including today’s disasters and the disasters of tomorrow<sup>3</sup> and their impact on peoples lives and productive assets, ensuring multi-level, multi-stakeholder action for prevention planning.
  - ii. Call upon political leadership for recognition of the links between and commitment to ensure policy coherence regarding DRR, climate change and sustainable development goals, policies, implementation architecture and indicators to build resilience of vulnerable communities and nations.
  - iii. Call upon governments for trans-border cooperation between countries and communities for disaster reduction, preparedness and recovery.
  - iv. Promote education and learning as the basis of all DRR action to prevent, respond and recover towards building a resilient society, including periodic learning reviews especially in the case of extensive disasters.
  - v. Call upon governments to empower National and Local Platforms on DRR, engaging all stakeholders to ensure accountable action by all towards prevention of disaster losses

<sup>1</sup> The CSO Task Force would like to recall commitments made previously including those reflected in Chair’s Summaries of the 2009 and 2011 Global Platforms.

<sup>2</sup> This includes clarity in definition of national and sub-national budget allocations, with a minimum of 10% investment in DRR from large-scale emergency response funds, and a minimum allocation of 1% of total development funding; in addition to comprehensive mainstreaming of DRR into the remaining percentages of humanitarian and development budgets.

<sup>3</sup> These include cascading disasters caused within and in proximity to high risk facilities or areas, as well as slow onset events such as sea level rise, ocean acidification, and glacial melt.

of communities.

3. *Each action to specify: [ Each action need to **Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time bound**]*

i. Level: local / national / regional / global [*All action to specify the implementation level*]

*All actions to be carried out at local level except action 3(iv), 4(i), 4(v) to be carried out regionally; and actions 4(iii), 4(iv), 4 (vi) and 4(vii) to be carried out nationally through member organizations.*

ii. Targets:

*Member organizations of the CSO Task Force would be encouraged to set and report qualitative and quantitative targets based on their constituency, geographical presence and capacity.*

iii. Indicators:

Scalable models of successful practices in:

- Local citizen/government, multi-stakeholder risk reduction and resilience-building partnerships.
- Effective sharing of information leading to reduced disaster risks
- Women, children and youth, people with disabilities and disaster-affected, excluded and vulnerable groups are engaged as leaders and partners for resilience at local levels.
- Successful examples of national and sub-national monitoring of DRR budget allocations, ensuring minimum level investments and effective resource allocation mechanisms to local communities
- Communities and at-risk groups have direct access to increased funding for risk reduction and resilience-building efforts
- Position statements, evidence based research, and advocacy for actions informing HFA2 process

iv. Means of Verification:

Organizational, program and project reports shared by members of the CSO Task Force at the ISDR Asia Partnership meetings.

Good practice reports

v. Timeframe:

*By September 2016*

References:

1. Asia –Pacific Input Document for HFA2, (UNISDR)
  2. Joint Civil Society Position on Post 2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (GNDR)
  4. Community Resilience Survey, 2014 (ADRRN),
  4. Lessons and Recommendations from Japanese Civil Society for the POST 2015 DRR Framework (JCC,2015),
  5. Value Creation for Global Change: Building Resilient and Sustainable Societies (SGI)
  6. Statements by national CSO networks in Philippines, Myanmar
  7. Position statements by ADRRN, Action Aid, Handicap International, Oxfam, Christian Aid, World Vision, CARITAS, World Animal Protection, Huairou Commission, Child Focused Organizations, Asia Dalit Rights Forum on inclusion of communities affected by Caste Based Discrimination (CBD) in Disaster Risk Reduction, and statement of Faith-Based Organizations on Disaster Risk Reduction.
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