



WITH SUPPORT FROM:



9TH SESSION OF THE AFRICA WORKING GROUP ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION [EXTENDED]

• 25– 26 OCTOBER 2016 • LIVINGSTONE (ZAMBIA) •

Concept Note

BACKGROUND

The adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 made a paradigm shift in the policy and action on sustainable development. It was realised that development that does not take risk into account cannot be sustained, nor can it be sustainable. This called for the need of a risk-sensitive development at global, regional, national and local levels.

Following the adoption of the Sendai Framework, Africa has been undertaking concrete steps, with active engagement of the African Union, the Member States and Regional Economic Communities, UNISDR and partners, to facilitate its implementation on the continent. These included:

(i) the adoption of the *Yaoundé Declaration on implementation of the Sendai Framework in Africa* and key recommendations and follow-up actions at the 7th Africa Working Group (AWG) and 4th High-Level meetings in July 2015 in Yaoundé, Cameroon;

(ii) the adoption of the roadmap for the alignment of the Extended Programme of Action (POA) for the implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (2006-2015) with the Sendai Framework at the 8th Session of the Africa Working Group (Core) in February 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and

(iii) undertaking the review of the POA based on the roadmap and recommendations from the 7th and 8th

Sessions of AWG to actualize the decision of the AU Executive Council. The revised POA will enable Africa to effectively deliver on its commitments to the priorities of the Framework and also greatly contributes to the realisation of the Agenda 2063.

THE AFRICA WORKING GROUP

The Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction, established through a Ministerial Declaration, provides technical support to the African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities, Member States and partners for coordination and implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction. The AWG meets biannually wherein the Core Group and Extended Group meet alternatively. Eight such sessions of the AWG have been convened so far.

The Ninth Session of the Africa Working Group (Extended) will be hosted by the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the Republic of Zambia from 25-26 October 2016 in Livingstone.

The Extended AWG will be attended by representatives from AUC, RECs, one Member State from each REC, UNISDR and other UN entities, AfDB, WB/GFDRR, Regional Climate Centres, civil society, academic and scientific organisations, sub-regional Inter Agency Working Groups, Pan-African Parliamentarians, African Mayors and Local Governments, gender and youth organisations, media, and other development partners.

OBJECTIVES OF 9TH SESSION OF AWG

The 9th Session of the AWG will have the following key objectives:

1. Review progress in the implementation of the Yaoundé Declaration on the implementation of the Sendai Framework in Africa;
2. Review the status of implementation of agreed action points from the 8th Session of AWG, 16-17 February 2016;
3. Review and finalise the Programme of Action for implementation of the Sendai Framework in Africa;
4. Agree on the structure and agenda of the Sixth Session of the Africa Regional Platform (AfRP) and Fifth High-Level meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction, 22-25 November 2016, Mauritius; and
5. Review the progress in the implementation of the ACP-EU DRR Programme: Building Disaster Resilience to Natural Hazards in Sub-Saharan African Regional, Countries, and Communities

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Key expected outcomes of the 9th Session of the Extended AWG are:

1. Agreed structure and agenda of the 6th AfRP and 5th High Level Meeting.
2. Final draft Programme of Action for implementation of the Sendai the Sendai Framework in Africa for consideration and adoption at the 6th AfRP and 5th High Level Meeting; and
3. A draft Political Declaration to be considered and adopted at the 5th High Level Meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The 9th Session of the AWG (Extended) will be chaired by the African Union Commission and the SADC Secretariat will be the vice chair. UNISDR will serve as the Secretariat.

For any additional information, please contact AUC (Mrs. Leah Naess Wanambwa <Wanambwal@africa-union.org>) or UNISDR (Mr. Animesh Kumar <Animesh.Kumar@unisdr.unon.org and Mr. Mathewos Hunde Tulu <mathewos.tulu@unisdr.unon.org>).

Disaster Risk Reduction in Zambia

The Republic of Zambia is a landlocked developing country in Southern Africa, frequently affected by disasters. While droughts and floods have affected a significant proportion of the population, epidemics have caused high mortality.

The focal disaster risk reduction agency in Zambia is Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU), a special unit under the Office of the Vice-President. The DMMU was established through a Disaster Management Act endorsed in 2010. The Act also established the National Disaster Relief Trust Fund, and provides, through various means, the maintenance and operation of a system for the prevention, preparedness, and management of disasters. DRR coordination is ensured through the National Disaster Management Consultative Forum established in 2006.

<http://www.dmmu-ovp.gov.zm>

Disaster Risk Reduction in SADC

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) is a Regional Economic Community comprising of 15 Member States. The SADC Secretariat has in place a regional Disaster Risk Reduction Unit, while all 15 Member States, including Mauritius and Zambia, have disaster risk management institutions. The SADC Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was inaugurated in 2011.

Disaster Risk Reduction is integrated across several SADC structures, including agriculture, water and natural resources management, while the SADC Climate Services Centre provides operational, regional services for monitoring and predicting extremes in climate condition.

<http://www.sadc.int/themes/disaster-risk-management>



<http://www.unisdr.org/conferences/2016/afrp>

ISDR.AfRP@unisdr.unon.org