



WITH SUPPORT FROM:



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

• MOMBASA (KENYA) • 26-27 SEPTEMBER 2017 •

Concept Note [Draft]

BACKGROUND

Disaster risk reduction continues to gain momentum and recognition in Africa, given its irreplaceable role in achieving sustainable development and building resilience on the continent. This is evident from a broad range of steps taken at all levels, including at the policy level, since the Tenth session of the Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (AWGDRR) that was held on 7-8 March 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with the view of translating the Sendai Framework and its Africa Programme of Action into action. Key milestone achievements recorded since the Tenth session of the AWGDRR include: (i) broad and at the highest-level participation of Africa in the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, 22-26 May 2017, Cancun, Mexico¹; and (ii) endorsement of and presentation of the Common African Position to the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction at the Platform. Through its Common Position, Africa was not only able to share its achievements in disaster risk reduction with the rest of the world but also renewed its commitment to the implementation of Sendai Framework through the Africa Programme of Action for the Implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa.

The Common African Position to the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is therefore a testament to the emphasis Africa places on disaster risk reduction for resilience and its recognition as a critical factor for realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and aspirations of Agenda 2063.

THE AFRICA WORKING GROUP ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Reconstituted following the request of the Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Nairobi, April 2010), the AWG has been playing an important role in providing technical support to the African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities, Member States and partners for the coordination and implementation of the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and its Programme of Action.

The Group meets biannually wherein the Core Group and Extended Group meet alternatively. Ten such sessions of the AWG have been convened so far.

While the Tenth session of the Group focused primarily on the development of the Common African Position to the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in line with the Mauritius Declaration, the Eleventh Session is expected to identify concrete follow-up actions for its implementation. The Group is also expected to identify priority activities from the Matrix of the Programme of Action for

¹ <http://unisdr.org/gp2017>

the Implementation of Sendai Framework in Africa to enable AUC to prepare a work plan for implementing the PoA during 2017/18-2020, besides reviewing regional progress in disaster risk reduction as well as Africa's participation in and contribution to the Global Platform. Moreover, there will be a session devoted to discussion of Youth engagement in the implementation of the Sendai Framework and its Africa Programme of Action as a key step in translating words into action towards the implementation of the African Union Roadmap on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in Youth.

OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOME OF 11TH AWG SESSION

Specific objectives and expected outcomes of the Eleventh Session of the AWG are as follows:

OBJECTIVES

1. To review progress of the implementation of agreed action points from the 10th Session of AWG, 07-08 March 2017, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2. To evaluate regional progress in disaster risk reduction in the context of the Sendai Framework and the Programme of Action for the Implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa;
3. To review Africa's participation in and contribution to the Global Platform; and
4. To identify priority activities (from the Matrix of the Africa Programme of Action-PoA), which will form the basis of the development of a work plan (and budget) by AUC to implement the PoA during 2017/18-2020.

OUTCOMES

1. Key recommendations to enhance implementation of Sendai Framework and the Programme of Action for the Implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa at all levels;

2. Concrete follow-up actions to support implementation of the Common African Position to the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction; and
3. Agreed priority activities on the basis of which AUC will develop a work plan to implement the PoA during 2017/18-2020.

VENUE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Eleventh Session of the AWG (Extended) will be hosted by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) and will take place on 26 and 27 September 2017 in Mombasa, Kenya. The meeting will be chaired by the African Union Commission while IGAD and UNISDR will act as the vice-chair and the secretariat respectively.

The AUC will provide additional logistic information and manage travel arrangements for sponsored delegates. UNISDR, as secretariat to the AWG, will provide technical and documentation support and other information in liaison with AUC.

For any additional information, please contact AUC (Mr Diane Aboubakar at DianeA@africa-union.org) or UNISDR (Mr Mathewos Hunde Tulu at mathewos.tulu@un.org).

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

1. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
www.unisdr.org/we/coordinate/sendai-framework
2. Outcome documents from the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
<http://unisdr.org/gp2017>
3. Mauritius Declaration, and Programme of Action for the implementation of Sendai Framework
www.unisdr.org/conferences/2016/afrp

4. Common Africa Position to the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
<http://bit.ly/2qXcE7A>
5. Draft revised TOR for the AWG
6. Indicators and Terminology Relating to Disaster Risk Reduction (Final endorsed by UNGA, Feb 2017)
<http://bit.ly/1MFhFVn>
7. Report of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (Ref: Annex IV, Table 2)
<http://bit.ly/2rUUKVo>