



**Celebration of the "International Day for Disaster Reduction"
in ECO Region**

13 October 2017, Ankara

organized by ECO Secretariat and AFAD

Note by the ECO Secretariat

Background

1. Two years since adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR), governments, private sector, civil society, regional and international organizations, and other stakeholders are engaged in its follow-up and implementation process.
2. Sendai Framework specifies that *"Each State has the primary responsibility to prevent and reduce disaster risk, including through international, regional, sub-regional, transboundary and bilateral cooperation."* It also acknowledges *"...the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction as mechanisms for the sharing of practices and the development of policy guidance in disaster risk management..."* where *"Regional intergovernmental organizations should play an important role in the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction."*
3. In the same direction, ECO Member States and ECO Secretariat have been involved since Sendai adoption in different activities, including in drafting an ECO Regional Framework for DRR.
4. The United Nations General Assembly has designated **13 October as International Day for Disaster Reduction** with a view to promoting a global culture of disaster reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness. UNISDR has invited all stakeholders to utilize this global day which will *"provide an advocacy platform to all governments, local governments, disaster management agencies, UN agencies, NGOs, Red Cross and Red Crescent societies, civil society groups, businesses, academic and scientific institutions, and other*

interested groups to demonstrate support for gender-sensitive implementation of the Sendai Framework and to highlight achievements and challenges in so doing with a particular focus on reducing the numbers of people affected by disasters."

5. Turkish Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) will host the 2nd Experts Group Meeting for finalization of ECO Regional Framework for DRR on 11-12 October 2017 in Ankara. In a joint ECO-AFAD programme on 13th October 2017, the "International Day for Disaster Reduction" will be celebrated by Member States and officials and representatives from the relevant regional and international organizations.

Tentative Programme of UN International Day for Disaster Reduction

Venue: AFAD Headquarters, Ankara

Time: 10h00-12h15, 13th October 2017

10:00-10:15 Opening Remarks by Dr. Mehmet Gulluoglu; Head of AFAD

10:15-10:30 Remarks by Mr. Seyed Jalaledin Alavi Sabzevari ;
ECO Deputy Secretary General

10:30-10:45 Video Message by UN officials (tbd)

10:45-11:45 Roundtable on disaster reduction at regional level
Panelists (tbd)

11:45-12:15 *Reception*