



**Bangladesh Red Crescent Society**  
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Statement by  
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2017 GLOBAL PLATFORM ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION  
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Honorable Chairman, Excellency, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen-----

On behalf of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, we appreciate the excellent arrangements made by the Government of Mexico and the facilitation of UNISDR for this 2017 of Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Honorable Chairman,

As you are aware that the Bangladesh experiences different types of Natural Disasters almost every year because of the Global Warming as well as Climate Change impacts, these are: **Floods / Flash Floods** (Almost 80% of the total area of the country is prone to flooding). **Cyclones and Storm Surges** (South and South-eastern Parts of the country were hit by Tropical Cyclones during the last few years). **Salinity Intrusion** (Almost the whole Coastal Belt along the Bay of Bengal is experiencing Salinity problem). **Extreme Temperature and Drought** (North and North-western regions of the country are suffering because of the Extreme Temperature problem).

Tropical cyclone Sidor, Mohasen, Nargis hit Bangladesh, and the country has again proved its efficiency in cyclone management through massive preparedness mechanism. Within 24 hours drive we were able to evacuate around 1 million people from the coastal area and mobilized all out support from government agencies, development partners, civil society and NGOs through our in-built coordination mechanism which has resulted minimal casualty and damages.

Distinguished Delegates,

As we are steadily working towards achieving the goals, We are achieving the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals despite the exposure to natural hazards and effects of climate change.

Bangladesh is now consolidating disaster risk reduction in public policies, development plans and programmes. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society enacted the Disaster Management Act 2012, and revised Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD) in 2010.

Bangladesh is moving to institutionalize disaster risk reduction knowledge and practices in 42 universities, institutions and various public training institutions. We are planning to establish a National Disaster Management Training and Research Institute. More than eighteen thousand urban volunteers and fifty thousand Cyclone Preparedness Programme volunteers have been trained and are making their contribution during various disaster situations. Another 44 thousand more urban volunteers are being trained in phases.

Excellency, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society continue to promote risk reduction hand-in-hand with poverty reduction and social security through the various safety net programmes and food security programmes with the intend to protect the most vulnerable – specially the poor and the disadvantaged, women, children, person with disability and the elderly on basis of poverty mapping. In the urban areas we continue expanding the seismic micro zonation from the three principal cities to six urbanized districts.

The root causes of vulnerabilities in Bangladesh remain formidable as they are inseparable from the very issues such as the population question, poverty, rapid urbanization, gaps in access to basic

services and many others. In this context, Bangladesh Furthermore, we are keen to share our experience and successes with other nations in a mutually beneficial manner.

I call upon all our Development Partners and the international organizations to intensify their commitment and support to scaling up of our disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation measures.

The time is now to address disaster risks and climate change adaptation through a holistic approach towards adopting 'Resilience' as a common and shared vision. Bangladesh Red Crescent Society stands ready to share its experience and cooperate with all nations, actors, and institutions to craft a peace and development framework that ensures resilience for all.

Thank you