

Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (16-19 June, 2009)

Joint statement by the six members¹ of the ISDR Management Oversight Board

The Way Forward

A critical window of opportunity is open to us – to make 2010 the year of Investment and Action. The Copenhagen Agreement must include disaster risk reduction as an essential element of climate change adaptation, and serve as the catalyst for renewed and invigorated political commitment and action.

Setting clear targets – backed by political commitment – is the next step on the road to more effective mitigation of disaster.

We, the six members of the International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction Management Oversight Board, in order by 2015 to halve the number of deaths from disasters and to reduce significantly economic losses, therefore call for targets to be set as follows:

- 1) By 2010, establishment of clear national and international financial commitments to DRR, for example to allocate a minimum of 10% of all humanitarian and reconstruction funding, at least 1% of development funding, and at least 30% of climate change adaptation funding to disaster risk reduction.
- 2) By 2011, a global structural evaluation of all schools and hospitals and by 2015 firm action plans for safer schools and hospitals developed and implemented in all disaster prone countries with disaster risk reduction included in all school curricula by the same year.
- 3) By 2015, all major cities in disaster prone areas to include and enforce DRR measures in their building and land use codes.

To achieve these targets requires development of comprehensive national disaster risk reduction programs; inclusion of disaster risk reduction in all national strategic initiatives, such as Poverty Reduction Strategies and National Development Plans; development of minimum safety net programs in the poorest and most vulnerable communities to increase basic resilience; and strengthening of early warning systems linked to strong community empowerment and preparedness.

Achieving these targets will be challenging but can be done. Even now, some of the world's poorest countries are reducing the impact of disasters.

We will give our full support to those who need it – by committing all of our networks, resources and know-how.

¹ The World Bank, IFRC, UNEP, UNDG, WMO, OCHA