

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to greet you sincerely and express my pleasure for having the opportunity to participate in an important event such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

As a member of the United Nations, Bosnia and Herzegovina was required to establish a National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in accordance with the conclusions of the "UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction", held in January 2005, in Kobe, Japan, and in line with "Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disaster", which represents the result of the Conference.

First Conference of Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of Bosnia and Herzegovina was held on 25-26 March 2013 in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo.

Platform gathered a large number of representatives of the protection and rescue structures of BiH, state and entity institutions, scientific and academic communities, private companies and enterprises, non-governmental organizations, local communities, international and regional organizations, as well as numerous media representatives.

Bosnia and Herzegovina established the Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction as a permanent forum to exchange views and provide input and suggestions that contribute to disaster risk reduction in all areas of human activity. This also fulfills the primary goal of the Platform to make the policy of disaster risk reduction a national priority and the priority of the local community, with a strong institutional basis for its application.

The Platform-forum is anticipated to be held annually.

In addition to establishment of the Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and according to the recommended actions for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action, Bosnia and Herzegovina has developed Risk Assessment regarding natural and other disasters. The assessment is an essential document for the ongoing development of the Protection and Rescue Plan of Institutions and Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina in case of Natural and other Disasters.

The protection and rescue structures of Bosnia and Herzegovina developed educational materials, organized a number of seminars, workshops and trainings in order to educate population and raise awareness of the risk of disasters and the need for action to reduce them.

Also, the contribution to the realization of the Hyogo Framework for Action priorities is the establishment of the Operational and Communication Center of Bosnia and Herzegovina - 112 (2011), whose role is to regularly collect data on all types of phenomena and hazards that can lead to natural or other disasters, as well as data about the consequences of natural or other disasters on people and property in the affected area, and the processing of these data and their distribution to the competent authorities and legal entities.

In terms of raising the preparedness and response to disasters, the Council of Ministers formed the Coordinating Body for Protection and Rescue (2009.), as professional and operational body of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which manages and

coordinates protection and rescue actions in case if a state of natural or other disaster was declared in BiH.

The Framework Law on Protection and Rescue people and property regarding natural or other disasters in BiH (passed in 2008) prescribes the formation of mixed specialized unit for protection and rescue at the state level, and currently, we are realizing the activities and dialogue about the subject