



BRAZIL
Check on Delivery

**Preparatory Committee – Third UN World Conference on Disaster
Risk Reduction
Geneva, 17 November**

Messrs Co-Chairs,

I would like to thank you for convening the second session of the Preparatory Committee of the Third World Conference. We also would like to express our appreciation for the work carried out by UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction in preparing for the meeting and providing the necessary support.

Brazil wishes to commend the Special Representative Margareta Wahlström and thank the Government of Japan for hosting the Conference. We welcome the nomination of Eriko Yamatani, Minister of State for Disaster Management of Japan, for the presidency of the World Conference.

Brazil associates itself to the statement^{made} by Costa Rica on behalf of CELAC and would like to make additional comments on a few points of particular importance for our country.

While we believe that the “zero draft” represents a clear improvement in relation to the previous document, more efforts are needed in order to achieve an ambitious and balanced outcome. To that effect, the co-chairs can count on our positive and constructive engagement in the upcoming negotiations.

We share the view that the draft should be concise and action oriented, building upon and adding to the Hyogo

Framework for Action, but form should follow substance. It is important to firmly anchor the text in the framework of sustainable development, most notably in the Rio+20 "The Future We Want" outcome document.

It is crucial that the text clearly depicts poverty eradication and reduction of inequality as key priorities for action, recognizing the deep synergies with disaster risk reduction, particularly with regards to developing countries. Somehow, this message has been lost in the process of transcribing national comments into the "zero draft". As it currently stands, poverty eradication and reduction of inequalities are only two among many factors that account for disaster risk.

We welcome the proposed chapter on international cooperation and partnerships and the reference to means of implementation. It is a step in the right direction, but more needs to be done. We fully recognize that disaster risk reduction remains a primary responsibility of national governments, however, it is a matter of concern that the draft does not contain any reference to commitments on development cooperation undertaken in other UN bodies, especially of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries.

In this regard, we call on the co-chairs to ensure that the current draft is duly aligned with other UN documents on international cooperation and global partnership for development, notably with regards to the financing for development process. We note that the use of the terms North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation does not properly reflect the differences and complementarities between these modalities.

The text correctly recognizes that developing countries, especially LDCs, SIDS, LLDCs and Africa, require support and special attention in the implementation of the disaster risk targets. We reiterate the need for the document to refer to the principles of “common but differentiated responsibilities” and of “respective capacities” of developing countries, as requested by many delegations during the consultation process.

Finally, Brazil welcomes the draft elements of the Sendai Political Declaration. While it offers important suggestions on some of the main issues addressed in the framework, ~~but~~ it still lacks appropriate balance. We believe the text should include language on core principles such as sustainable development and the eradication of hunger and poverty, which have been recognized as central elements for the reduction of risk and vulnerabilities and the construction more resilient societies.

Brazil looks forward to intergovernmental consultations on the draft texts of the new framework and political declaration. We expect that the outcome document will better reflect the views of all actors, including developing countries, thereby, providing a clearer path for action aimed at reducing and managing disaster risk in the next decade. We are positive about the outcome, but it would be remiss on our part if we did not mention the tight schedule of negotiations ahead.

Brazil is ready to continue its active participation in the consultations.

Thank you.