

Arab Region Consultation Meeting (UNISDR)

Sunday, 19 May 2013 – 15:00 to 17:30

Geneva, CICG Room 18 (Level -1)

Description:

An Arab position for the Fourth Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was developed and refined during the Arab Conference in Aqaba. The position summarizes the region's concerns and recommendations to the global consultations. It illustrates the main challenges and priorities in the region with respect to disaster risk reduction. This meeting seeks to leverage the presence of Arab countries' delegates at the Global Platform to improve coordination and information sharing on regional progress and concerns, as well as provide clarification on expectations concerning the main issues to be discussed at the Global Platform for DRR.

Considering the above context, the session will share the outcomes of the 1st Arab Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction, which took place in Aqaba, Jordan 19-21 March 2013. It will highlight progress made in HFA implementation to date and provide an overview of Arab States' initial recommendations for a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. Key elements of the Aqaba Declaration on DRR in Arab Cities will also be shared with participants. Select Arab countries will also be invited to showcase their DRR progress, experiences and challenges.

Specific objectives:

- Share outcomes of the 1st Arab Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction including recommendations for post-2015 global framework on DRR (HFA2)
- Share the Aqaba Declaration on DRR in Arab Cities and show-case example/s of local government action on DRR.
- Share results of the regional synthesis report on progress in the implementation of Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2007-2012.
- Share elements of the Global Synthesis Report on HFA2 Consultations and expectations from 4th session of Global Platform on DRR.
- Highlight country cases and experiences in DRR.

Agenda – Arab Region Meeting (Sunday 19 May 2013, 15:00-17:30, Geneva, CICG Room 18)

15:00 – 15:05	Welcome and Introduction of the Meeting Amjad Abbashar, UNISDR Regional Office for Arab States (Chair of the Meeting)
15:05 – 15:20	Briefing on the 1 st Arab Conference on DRR and general recommendations on DRR in the region League of Arab States, Ambassador Shahira Wahbi
15:20 – 15:45	Findings of the Regional Progress on HFA implementation 2007-2012 Dr Fadi Hamdan, Disaster Risk Reduction Expert
15:45 – 16:10	Arab Region recommendations on HFA2 and post 2015 DRR Framework Luna Abu-Swaireh, UNISDR Regional Office for Arab States
16:10 – 16:20	Aqaba Declaration on disaster risk reduction in Arab Cities – <i>21 March 2013</i> Dr Muhannad Harara, Commissioner for Environment and Public Health, Aqaba Special economic Zone authority (ASEZA), Jordan
16:20 – 16:40	Experience of Egypt in addressing disaster risk reduction at local level – Sharm El Sheikh mitigating flash flood risk. General Khalid Fouda, Governor of South Sinai, Egypt
16:40 – 17:00	Experience of United Arab Emirates in addressing disaster risk reduction. Khalifa Ali Al Kaabi, Head of Support & Communication Unit National Emergency Crisis & Disaster Management Authority (NCEMA), United Arab Emirates
17:00 – 17:10	Role of Civil Society in HFA implementation and vision for post-2015 (HFA2) Dr Emad Adly, General Coordinator, the Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED)
17:10 – 17:30	Expectations from the 4 th Session of the Global Platform for DRR and sharing info on important meetings at the Global Platform UNISDR