

---

**Name of Event: [Plenary] Joint Outcomes of Global Platform and World Reconstruction Conference**

**Date of Event: May 13, 2011**

**Speakers:**

- Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Reduction (Co-chair)
- Ms Zoubida Allaoua, Director Finance, Economics and Urban Development Department, World Bank (Co-chair)
- Ms. Janet Edwards, Swedish National Platform and Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency
- Ms. Saumura Tioulong, International Parliamentarian Union Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade, Cambodia
- Mr. David Cadman, President of ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability
- Dr. Kim HakSu, Senior Advisor National Emergency Management Agency, Korea
- Ms. Vishaka Hidellage, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction
- Ms. Josephine Castillo, DAMPA in the Philippines
- Dr. Guiteau Jean-Pierre, Haiti Red Cross Society
- Mr. Aris Papadopoulos CEO, Titan America
- Ms. Lily Caravantes, Presidential Secretary for Food Safety and Nutrition, Guatemala
- Prof. Virginia Murray, Head of Extreme Events and Health Protection Centre for Radiation, Chemicals and Environmental Hazards, London
- Andre, Representative of Children

**1) Outline**

Representatives from governments, private sector, academia, mayors, parliamentarians, NGOs, and civil society shared their views on the priorities and how to increase commitment and resources to disaster risk reduction.

Where several short years ago, many States were still learning about risk reduction and how to cope with the onset of a disaster. Today, National and Regional Platforms were providing forums for collaborative approaches to risk reduction around the globe, and governments were taking concrete steps, through policy and planning, to prepare for, and respond to

risks. Mayors and local governments were committing to the Making Cities Resilient Campaign to enhance the capabilities of local government to build resilience. At the local level, community practitioners were calling for partnerships to involve local communities and grassroots groups.

## **2) Key messages, outcomes, and recommendations**

- Speakers at the Joint Summary Outcomes recognized that strong community involvement and engagement was crucial for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation to increase the resilience of the country. Disaster risk reduction should be decentralized and local governance reinforced. Not just Governments but local communities, civil society, academia and the private sector must be involved in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.
- Several delegations in the Joint Outcomes Session also expressed their commitment, future action, and reflection on the sessions of the Global Platform and World Reconstruction Conference. The Chair's Summary would reflect the converging views on the critical steps for the disaster risk reduction community.

### **3) Attachment**

#### **Closing Plenary Statement Delivered by Josephine Castillo Community Practitioners Platform for Resilience**

I am Josephine Castillo, a leader and community organizer of DAMPA from Philippines. We work in Metro Manila with urban poor communities. I am here representing the Community Practitioners Platform for Resilience. We are building and this Platform as a space in which community leaders can come together to demonstrate and teach our practices as well as partner with governments, local authorities and donors.

We are very happy that Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, head of UNISDR recognized that it is local, organized communities, people's organizations and grassroots women's organizations whose work is at the heart of local action for resilience. And therefore, communities need to be present in forums where the governments, local authorities and NGOs are talking about the challenges, achievements and the plans for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

We want to congratulate and appreciate ISDR for an exciting and successful Global Platform in which we communities have had opportunities to bring our experience and knowledge to numerous events and meet with representatives of governments, local authorities and NGOs. The relationships we built here will strengthen our ability to build partnerships at home.

Through our participation in the Global Platform we have been able to show the contributions grassroots women playing in building resilient communities. In the context of disaster recovery and reconstruction, we showed in our thematic session at the World Reconstruction Conference how the public roles that grassroots women undertake – by distributing aid, collecting and disseminating information, by monitoring construction – accelerate recovery and transform the long term development of communities. In the context of disaster risk reduction community leaders presented the many ways in which we are convincing local and national officials that it is in everyone's interest to work together.

But it is also clear to us that there are still many challenges that we have to address – problems we have to solve. Most resilience programs are too down and highly compartmentalized. They focus on one area – health, housing, food or infrastructure. For us resilience has to be seen in a holistic way and programs have to allow us – local communities – to decide what is most important for us to address.

**3<sup>rd</sup> UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**  
**Joint Summary Outcomes Statement by Public Sector Advisory Group Chair**  
**Aris Papadopoulos, CEO, Titan America**  
**May 13, 2011**

Madam Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I feel both privileged and humble today to report to this distinguished audience on behalf of over a dozen Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG) members, who a few days ago honored by electing me to serve as their chair.

The history of the PSAG is very brief, starting about a year ago with the Secretary General's vision of more actively harnessing the knowledge, resources and energy of the private sector to accelerate progress on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). 6-9 months ago, Special UN Representative Margareta Wahlstrom began bringing together private sector members active in sustainability and disaster prevention from diverse business areas. Some of us, having never before heard of the UN's International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), labeled it 'the UN's best kept secret'. The world needs to know about it!

This week the PSAG made its public entrance at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Global Platform (GP) meeting. Participation highlights included:

- A press conference releasing our 'Statement of Commitment by the Private Sector for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction' (Statement), that I will later elaborate on.
- Presentation of the above at the Plenary Statements session
- A Private Sector Roundtable that included members of the public sector
- Individual PSAG member engagement in numerous GP panels and discussion forums

The GP also enabled our group to come closer together, organize itself and develop plans and goals for the immediate future.

The question has occurred to you: Why is the private sector here? Besides social responsibility and building goodwill, there is a strong business case that the private sector heavily shares in the cost of disasters and has a vital interest in resilience. Without stability and functional continuity, the economic foundation of security, prosperity and growth, on which private sector investment is based, is endangered. The same public that suffer from disasters are our employees, our customers and our suppliers. Who is not in at least one of those categories?

However, we came to the GP not just to speak, but even more to listen and learn. Important takeaways we gained are that:

- Hazards have no borders, color or economic level

- Hazards are natural. Disasters are human. They result from our own human decisions and thus are within our powers to change.
- The sensitive groups of women, children and the poor are those suffering most from disasters
- The need to move from a culture of 're' to a culture of 'pre'. More prevention and preparedness to require less recovery and reconstruction. Sustainable solutions based on root cause understanding rather than repetitive bandages.
- Building trust and breaking down barriers is essential to moving from 're' to 'pre'. Trust and barriers not only between public and private sectors, but also within segments of the private sector itself.
- Frameworks can be global and national, but solutions and actions are predominantly local
- Awareness building is critical. The UN superbly led global awareness-building on climate change. Now the same awareness-building is needed on disaster prevention and resilience. 'Best kept secret' need it be no more.
- Real sustainability includes both reducing our environmental impact and becoming more resilient. DRR is a component of sustainable economic and social development.

Turning to action, I mentioned earlier the private sector Statement we introduced at this GP. If you haven't already seen it, please access it thru ISDR. It contains three commitments to disaster prevention, resilience and risk reduction and a voluntary call to action with five essentials, the headlines of which are:

1. Promote and develop public-private partnerships
2. Leverage sectoral private sector expertise and strengths
3. Foster a collaborative exchange and dissemination of data
4. Support national and local risk assessments
5. Support the development and strengthening of national and local laws, regulations, policies and programs

We invite all private sector entities sharing such commitment to join in signing on to this Statement. The goal is 1000 signatories within 12 months, which I personally believe we will exceed. The PSAG, under ISDR, aims to serve as a catalyst bringing together a wide range of private sector entities into a global partnership for action that will encompass private businesses large and small, multiregional and local, business trade organizations, as well as government-owned business enterprises.

To achieve these near term goals, PSAG has organized along four task groups:

- Communication and awareness
- Metrics: an abundance of statistics and data are presented, but we still lack clear metrics for what really constitutes a resilient region, city, community or even building.
- Partnerships
- Support and resources: we aim to become self-sufficient in carrying out these efforts

In closing, one thought that emerged this week is the notion of micro-resilience. If we exist today, it is because our ancestors practiced such micro-resilience. Our ancestors lacked the technology,

communication and governmental omni-presence we enjoy, but they greatly respected the forces of nature and recognized the vulnerability of humans. Our ancestors knew where to live and how to build.

If what we're beginning creates a million lights of resilience, we'll have all come closer to achieving our common purpose.

Thank you.

**DRAFT Global Platform Statement from  
Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction**

**13 May 2011**

We are returning to our work with people living at the frontline of disasters with anticipation, hope and also frustration and many concerns.

- The situation is getting worse not better. 57% of local authorities and communities at most risk report that disaster losses are increasing
- Local action is not taking place at anywhere near the levels required to achieve the HFA goal of a substantial reduction in disaster losses by 2015. Progress reported at national level is not being matched by progress at local level.
- Inadequate resource and capacity is preventing implementation of legislation, policies and plans at the local level.

We request international institutions to set targets that provide direct investment to accelerate the building of local risk governance capacities – for local government and local community organisations.

- We anticipate increased commitment and support for a risk-reduction monitoring and reporting framework focussed on lives and livelihoods with multi-stakeholder involvement at the local-level.
- We call for shared resilience frameworks that break down institutional silos and reflect the way communities understand climate and disaster-risk

We request national governments to accept the invitations by Views from the Frontline teams in 69 countries to listen and act on the views of people in their country by bringing together government – national and local – and civil society and communities to assess and tackle risks threatening people at the local level.

We request local governments to take quantifiable action and to receive support from national government, other institutions and also local communities to increase knowledge – combining local indigenous expertise with external knowledge, build capacity – skills and structures, and increase measurable impact.

We are hopeful that private enterprise will demonstrate commitment to social responsibility and the welfare of communities by setting targets for direct investment and action in community-level activities.

We will support community organisations to create and maximise opportunities to work in partnerships with government and other organisations to help them build understanding, ensure greater accountability and transparency and develop local capacity and capability.

Yet, we are frustrated that again, again and again – from Yokohama to Kobe to Geneva, a recognition of the importance of inclusion and participation of those people most at-risk in planning and implementation is emphasised and yet words are not matched by actions at the local level. In this 3rd Global Platform the theme was ‘increase investment in local action.’ However, in the 14 critical steps identified in the Draft Chair’s summary, opportunities are missed to emphasise the need to focus on clear outcomes at the local level. This must not be allowed to continue.

We recognise that civil society has a role to play in supporting governments and communities to not only develop a greater understanding of risks that are faced and work together in reducing those risks, but also to secure and protect their rights as human beings and citizens.

The next Global Platform in 2013 must contain more stories of local progress, local investment, raised capacity and greater resilience if a substantial reduction in disaster losses is to be achieved.

Thank you.



**MAYORS STATEMENT ON RESILIENT CITIES FOR THE  
3rd GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

**13 May 2011, Geneva**

Cities are engines for development, prosperity and innovation. Covering only 1% of the earth's surface, urban areas are home to half and soon to be two thirds of the global population. Cities are also home to a billion urban poor in informal settlements. Worldwide urban areas use 75% of the world's energy and are responsible for 75% of global greenhouse emissions - with growing and alarming impact on climate change. Today, billions of people live in earthquake prone cities and billions live in cities at risk from cyclones and other extreme weather events. By 2050, these numbers may double or triple.

Local governments, at all levels, urban and rural, are the first institutional levels to respond to disasters and are best placed to reduce disaster risk and build resilience. Local communities matter and are the places where disasters and the immediate and real effects of climate change are most intimately felt. Our cities are already at risk, and increasingly so due to impacts of in-migration driving urbanization. Consequently vulnerabilities and exposure to earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and other natural and man-made hazards are increasing.

It is essential that we work together, that national governments involve and work with the local governments and community leaders in building strategies for risk reduction and for the implementation of these.

Local disaster risk reduction and adaptation strategies - making cities resilient - must support local sustainable development and improve the quality of life of our inhabitants, in particular the urban poor; especially women, children and other vulnerable groups who are most exposed to the impacts of climate change and other hazards.

Elected Mayors and political leaders need to respond to the expectations of our citizens. It is important to make disaster risk reduction an integral part of our development planning efforts. This must include at a minimum, a consultative and participatory approach, the protection of critical water and waste management systems, livelihoods, transport systems, and the protection of individual and public assets including cultural and historical heritage.

The "Making Cities Resilient Campaign", launched in 2010 at the Mayors Adaptation Forum in Bonn, demonstrates local leadership and raises awareness of how our efforts to reduce disaster risk are making our cities safer and more resilient. More than 750 local governments have signed up since the launch and have committed to the "ten essentials in making cities resilient" as a guide for action planning and monitoring. Many cities around the world are already developing and implementing local risk reduction and adaptation strategies in line with the Hyogo Framework for Action.

At the conclusion of the 3rd Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, participating

Mayors and Local Authorities wish to make the following commitments:

We commit to:

- Taking a leadership role in linking local level development and disaster resilience, understanding that all stakeholders should be integrated in planning, awareness raising, and investing in disaster risk reduction and resilience building in our cities and towns.
- Becoming promoters and leaders of the Global Campaign for Making Cities Resilient - 'My city is getting ready' - at the national, sub-national and local levels, including participation in city-to-city dialogue, evaluation and scaling up of best practice, and implementation of the "10 Point Essentials" for building resilience.
- Working with our city councils, civil society including the private sector and others to promote legal frameworks and proportionate budget increases aimed at strengthening capacities for resilience at the local government level through strategic spatial and territorial planning, land-use, and development programming.
- Advocating among international and national entities to make resources available through coordination with local governments as a way of strengthening autonomy, capacity, accountability and transparency for increasing resilience within our communities, towns and cities.

We call upon participants of the Global Platform to:

Commit to advancing the objectives of the Making Cities Resilient Campaign, by:

- Promoting active participation of cities and local governments.
- Supporting the establishment of "Role Model Cities" and promoting national and regional city-networks to increase disaster resilience.
- Acknowledging the need for local governments and communities to have a stronger voice at international forums on disaster risk reduction and climate change in which to share their concerns, perspectives, and actions.
- Maintaining a local government-led regular dialogue for local leaders and national authorities in the context of the campaign.
- Promoting an Alliance of Local Governments to promote disaster resilience including standards and benchmarks, knowledge transfer, broadening political space, sharing experience and monitoring progress.
- Encouraging South-south, city-to-city and triangular cooperation and learning opportunities.
- Sharing information regularly and developing the knowledge base for capacity enhancement on risk reduction for cities.
- Committing to invest in local action and protecting the most vulnerable through appropriate enabling legal and regulatory frameworks that recognize the role of local government in planning for risk, and

building in resilience. Understanding that local governments need direct access to financing mechanisms and technical resources from all levels – multilateral, national and local – in order to implement their strategies and initiatives.

- Scaling up advocacy for disaster risk reduction to all sectors, raising awareness amongst decision-makers at all levels to commit to and apply policies and especially financial and legal means for creating disaster and climate resilience at the local level.
- Working together to achieve decentralized political, administrative and legal framework that increase capacities and resources for local governments to deal more efficiently with disaster risk and resilience.
- Defining contributions, obligations and responsibilities of all sectors: state, local government, private sector, community groups, and external partners including academia, faith-based groups, city networks, and those with indigenous knowledge.
- Reformulating, where appropriate, local development plans to integrate risk reduction in all municipal functions including; building- and land use plans and regulatory systems, solid and liquid waste management, water production and distribution systems, parks and environmental management, emergency management, and development sectors.
- Promoting and achieving meaningful participation of community and interest groups, creating and strengthening networks and coordination, promoting multi-stakeholder local platforms/alliances, establishing mechanisms for social auditing as strategic and cross-cutting aspect of risk reduction and strengthened local and urban governance.

In conclusion:

We call upon the United Nations secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) to increase its commitment to managing the Making Cities Resilient Campaign as a part of its core programme. We further call upon the UNISDR secretariat to work with city networks, the UN Organizations and civil society organizations to sustain local preparations for disaster risk reduction, and building local resilience.

## HEADS OF IGOS AND REGIONAL PLATFORMS MEETING SUMMARY

9<sup>th</sup> May 2011, 14:00-18:00, Room 3

The meeting welcomed approximately 80 participants from the five UN regions, including regional and sub-regional IGOs and national Government representatives.

The delegates took note of the recent extreme and catastrophic events and the need for more and urgent attention for DRR considerations to be incorporated into the development planning process. They also recognized the increasing vulnerability and need to build resilience of SIDS and LDCs together with the recent disasters in G20 countries.

Building on the HFA Mid-Term Review, special emphasis was placed on the important role played by regional and sub-regional IGOs in fostering regional and cross-regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction in order to contribute to the acceleration of HFA implementation at the global, regional, national and local levels.

Regional and sub-regional organizations should be empowered to better support and scale up national level action through better governance and mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction into key development sectors.

Following extremely interesting and wide ranging discussions regarding the role of regional and sub-regional IGOs in regional and cross-regional cooperation, the following recommendations and priorities emerged:

1. Review and refine the Global Platform process, inclusive of how the outputs of the Regional and National Platforms are embraced.
2. Recognize the need for the strengthening of and provision of adequate resources to the UNISDR Secretariat to lead the process and to effectively support the growing uptake for DRR services at all levels.
3. Strongly encourage that the upcoming Rio+20 global meeting and the second 5 years of the HFA be used to promote the integration of DRR and CCA in supporting development.
4. Strengthen and support IGOs' role as mechanisms for effective implementation of recommendations arising from DRR platforms and other high-level meetings. As such, institutionalizing IGOs' role in the Global Platform context is both critical and urgent.
5. Urged that greater efforts be made to use information management and communications technologies to deepen cross-regional cooperation and knowledge networking, trans-boundary risk identification and management and set common standards and indicators in support of measuring progress with mainstreaming DRR.
6. Strongly recommend to foster cross-regional cooperation through the development of a global network of IGOs under ISDR's coordination. Such a policy networking of

IGOs is required to enhance technology transfer, inter-regional DRR exchange facility, sharing of good practices and successful methodologies for DRR implementation and replication amongst countries.

Finally, as a follow-up to the first meeting of IGOs at a Global Platform, Peru informally offered to host a second meeting of regional IGOs in Peru in the course of 2011.

## **IFRC REMARKS TO THE DRAFT CHAIR'S SUMMARY**

**Third Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction / Geneva / 13 May 2011**

**Delivered by Dr. Guiteau Jean-Pierre, Executive Director of Haitian Red Cross**

Thank you Madam Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

We, Red Cross Red Crescent National Societies, welcome the draft Chair's Summary and complement the UNISDR for having captured the rich discussions that have taken place during the course of this week.

We would like to emphasize the following four points in support of the outcomes of the Global Platform.

One, the adaptive capacity of the people MOST VULNERABLE to disaster risks and climate change needs increased investment NOW.

Two, new financing and investment instruments to scale up ex ante local action, are needed for the most vulnerable communities.

Three, disaster risk reduction should continue to include BOTH humanitarian and development actions, which meet minimum community safety and resilience standards.

Four, domestic legislation for disaster risk reduction must be strengthened in order to create an enabling environment for increased local level actions.

Finally, I would like to thank UNISDR for an excellent Third Session of the Global Platform, and on behalf of the Red Cross Red Crescent Societies, commit to increasing support to high-risk communities and providing leadership in local action, together with local government and other key partners.

Statements of intent alone will not give us lasting credibility with people who need our support.

We are fully committed to play our part in risk reduction, but we must also hold each other accountable for acting upon the commitments we have made this week.

**Speech by Andre 15yr Old from the Philippines at the Closing Ceremony of the  
2011 Global Platform**

Good Morning, I am here to give my message on behalf of my co-children participants from Kenya and the Philippines and from all children in the world. We attended this Global Platform in order to fight for the rights of young people to participate in issues affecting our lives and rights, especially about climate change and disasters.

In our country, we are vulnerable to various calamities such as earthquakes, typhoons, storm surges, and many others. During Typhoons, lives and properties are destroyed, classes stopped, and our right for education and peaceful living is violated. That's why children like me got involved with disaster risk reduction activities. We planted trees to prevent landslide and mangroves to weaken storm surges. We separate our rubbish to avoid blocked drainages and floods in our community. We also held community gatherings showing films in order to raise the awareness of our community against disasters.

At the global platform, we learned a lot on how to improve our knowledge on disaster risk reduction. We have learnt many things people around the world do in order to fight disasters while sharing some ideas of our own. We learned to value life and our planet; we also learned how to help more in saving our communities from calamities in our own practical ways.

As children, we would like the adults to prioritize children on disaster risk reduction.

Being the most vulnerable sector of society when it comes to disaster actions and plans should be made together with the children in order to ensure our safety. Child protection is a must, before during and after a disaster. Education is the most important way of sending information about disaster risk reduction so schools must be safe and education must not be interrupted. As a result, please focus your disaster risk reductions on practical measures to achieve these goals. The future of children depends upon your actions today.

Thank you.

**Statement on Science and Technology for the Third Session  
of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**

This statement presents recommendations related to science and technology in support of the outcomes of the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. It includes emerging priority issues in support of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (Annex 1) and a report on the work of the ISDR Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) (Annex 2).

The statement is prepared by the ISDR Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) based on work with scientific, technical and thematic networks, the Global Assessment Report 2011 (GAR), the Mid Term Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX), the outcomes of the International Disaster Risk Conference (IDRC, Davos 2010), the work of the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) programme and many other scientific and technical partners. A preparatory workshop for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Third Session on science and technology was held in Pavia, Italy, 5-6 April 2011.

This statement also builds on the report 'Reducing Disaster Risks through Science: issues and action' presented at the Second Session of the Global Platform by the ISDR STC. The report is available at: [www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2009/background/documents](http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2009/background/documents)

**Recommendations**

Recognizing that the insufficient level of implementation of known disaster risk reduction principles and existing knowledge contributes to high disaster risk in many countries.

Noting that recent disasters have stressed the existence of emerging, interrelated risks with cascading effects highlighting the importance of adopting an integrative risk reduction and disaster management process based on scientific and technical evidence.

The STC recommends that governments, national platforms and science councils, research institutions, the private sector, local communities, NGOs and the many more institutions involved in disaster risk reduction consider the following points in their actions to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and the outcomes of the Third Session of the Global Platform for the coming biennium:

1. Intensify efforts to follow a science based decision making process in disaster risk reduction through:
  - Ensuring the scientific and technical knowledge is mainstreamed into the activities of ISDR national and regional platforms and into the work of sector and local based institutions responsible for disaster risk reduction, particularly on risk assessment and cost-benefit analysis;



- Promoting local capacity building for fast transfer of emerging knowledge and technologies into practice and provide feedback to science;
- Promoting the implementation of validated, evidence-based, best practices which are simple, do-able, economically affordable, socially acceptable and ecologically compatible;
- Promoting enhanced collaboration between scientific institutions and networks in support of disaster risk reduction and between research and practice through an annual disaster risk reduction science forum to be organised in collaboration with relevant initiatives such as IDRC and IRDR.

2. Support a process of comprehensive and rigorous review of the status of science and technology for disaster risk reduction, to be carried out in collaboration with IRDR, IRDC and other mechanisms and the results of which should be presented at sessions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction through:

- Developing recommendations on advancing disaster risk reduction knowledge based on the findings emerging from the IPCC Special Report on Extreme Events (SREX);
- Contributing with guidance and support regarding emerging applied science and technical issues for the next GAR 2013 based on a review of the role of science and technology initiatives in GAR 2011;
- Reviewing the findings of the report 'Reducing Disaster Risks through Science: issues and action' presented at the Second Session of the Global Platform by the ISDR STC for the 2013 Global Platform Session and consider how recommendations have been implemented;
- Establishing a process for a comprehensive review of science and technology for disaster risk reduction leading up to the discussion on the future of disaster risk reduction after 2015.

3. Ensure that national, regional and international funding mechanisms for science and technology support the development of integrated research into disaster risk management, particularly in disaster prone developing countries and including comparative transnational and transregional research. In particular, it is suggested to hold a science and technical forum at the fourth session of the Global Platform in 2013.

## Chair's Summary

### Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Reconstruction Conference, Geneva, 8-13 May 2011

<http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011/>

1. The Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Reconstruction Conference met in Geneva, 8-13 May 2011. Opened by the United Nations Secretary-General BAN Ki-Moon and chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Global Platform recognized Doctor Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia as a Global Champion of Disaster Risk Reduction.
2. This Session of the Global Platform brought together the broadest ever cross-section of people committed to building resilience – including several Heads of State, Ministers, a Managing Director of the World Bank, over 2,600 delegates representing 168 Governments, 25 intergovernmental organizations, 65 non-governmental organizations, Parliamentarians, private sector, local government, academic institutions, civil society and international organizations.
3. Half of humanity is now living in cities. By 2050 urbanization will rise to 70 percent and urban risk will increase as well. Risk is further driven by factors such as rural and urban poverty, climate change, declining ecosystems, and development choices including in energy infrastructure. Commitment to resilience is urgently needed particularly in vulnerable groups, localities and regions including SIDS and LDC's.
4. The Mid-Term Review states that significant progress is being made in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action and that its principles have been firmly established and endorsed. The discussions at the Third Session demonstrated that we now possess the knowledge, the means and the commitment to make disaster risk reduction a national, local and international priority. There is a sense of urgency and clear political and economic imperatives to invest in disaster risk reduction.
5. The UN Secretary-General called for a coalition of action for disaster risk reduction and announced a high-level meeting during the next General Assembly to address the link between natural hazards and nuclear safety. Japan offered to host the Third World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015.
6. Mayors renewed their commitment to the Ten Essentials of the "My City is Getting Ready" Campaign. Private sector participants agreed on Five Essentials for Business and issued a Statement of Commitment for Disaster Prevention, Resilience and Risk Reduction. A joint statement called for scaling-up community-based health workforces as vital for disaster reduction. Young people came together to advance a Five Point Charter on Children and Disaster Reduction. Regional organizations reaffirmed their commitment to implementing regional strategies agreed to in ministerial meetings worldwide.

7. The choice before us as Governments, institutions, communities and individuals is to place disaster risk reduction at the forefront of our efforts to preserve and protect the balance of nature, ensure sustainable development and well-being for generations to come. To do so, we need to:

7.1 Support local governments and non-state actors as the front line of risk reduction implementation. “Invest today for a Safer Tomorrow – Increase Investment in Local Action.”

7.2 Draw upon the untapped potential of local actors and build on the role of women as agents of change.

7.3 Involve children and youth in disaster risk reduction decisions that affect their future as a practical way to ensure effective local action.

7.4 Fully engage the private sector as leaders in the construction of resilient infrastructure, sustainable development of urban areas, energy safety, and the protection of critical resources.

7.5 Build on the role that parliamentarians play in setting state policy and norms, oversight and scrutiny, legislation and the creation of enabling environments for risk reduction.

7.6 Build on the work of and linkages between national and regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, strengthening in particular, multi-stakeholder collaboration.

7.7 Promote the role of regional and sub-regional organizations in coordinating implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.

7.8 Actively engage and support scientific and technical communities to inform decision-making.

7.9 Strengthen and resource UNISDR to support the implementation of recommendations from this Platform acknowledging its leadership role within the United Nations on disaster risk reduction.

8. The Third Session of the Global Platform identified the following critical steps:

8.1 Recall and act upon the commitments at the Second Session of the Global Platform in 2009 that set targets for disaster risk reduction (see Box inset).

8.2 Increase investment in disaster risk reduction at the local level and ensure national growth does not increase local risks. Address local action directly in national growth targets, plans and policies. Strengthen capacities of local governments and ensure resource availability. Encourage collaboration with communities and volunteers including through participatory risk assessments and local multi-stakeholder monitoring and reporting.

8.3 Develop standards and indicators for measuring the effectiveness of disaster risk reduction at both the national and regional levels to guide public and private sector investments and improve quality and consistency in implementation.

8.4 Account for disaster losses in a standardized manner to support multi-hazard, integrated assessments as the basis for development decision-making and open-source risk public information.

8.5 Increase dedicated budget allocations for disaster risk reduction by using risk assessment, budgetary planning and project evaluation mechanisms, in all development investments. Create incentives for investing in prevention. Protect public finances with contingency mechanisms, including insurance.

8.6 Track investments in disaster risk reduction to provide clear evidence of the costs and benefits of investments through verifiable and accountable data to Governments and the public and as a further means of promoting aid-effectiveness. “Invest today for a Safer Tomorrow – Increase Investment in Local Action.”

8.7 Provide guidance to National Platforms to improve the effectiveness and support the executive level of decision-making. Ensure that responsibility for disaster risk reduction is backed by the necessary political authority to increase implementation across sectors through increased engagement with parliamentarians, local authorities and civil society.

8.8 Strengthen public awareness of disaster risks through promoting universal access to risk information, education, building social demand for disaster risk reduction and promote individual safety and responsibility. Use available communication technologies to provide clear and concise information.

8.9 Identify and prepare for emerging risks, including those associated with technological hazards and pandemics, through scientifically-informed multi-hazard risk assessments and scenario development. Encourage cross-sectoral cooperation that makes best use of available information and technology.

8.10 Avoid the inefficient use of existing resources by ensuring technologies for risk reduction are accessible as a means for adaptation and promoting integrated approaches to development that address climate change adaptation, disaster risk reduction and ecosystem management and restoration.

8.11 Ensure the availability of tailored science-based climate-related information through the Global Framework for Climate Services to support informed investment and planning at all levels. Incorporate, as well, integrated drought management, wild land fire management and food security in risk reduction policies and development planning.

8.12 Adapt innovative social protection and ecosystem management mechanisms to reduce disaster impacts based on understanding of the dynamics of vulnerability and ensuring protection of the most vulnerable households, communities and social groups.

8.13 Welcome the continued work of the Advisory Group for the Mid-Term Review of Hyogo Framework in advising on the follow-up to the Global Platform and contributing to the formulation of a post-2015 instrument, the first outline of which is to be reviewed in 2013 and finalized in 2014.

8.14 Support identification and preparedness for emerging risks, through recommending to the UN Secretary-General that he constitutes a group of eminent, disaster risk reduction experts to report at the Fourth Session of the Global Platform.

8.15 Ensure attention to disaster risk reduction in upcoming meetings, such as the 5th Asian Ministerial Conference in Indonesia, Rio+20, UNFCCC mechanisms, the 6th World Urban Forum and the Aid-

Effectiveness Meeting in 2011. Support implementation of the Millennium Development Goals by promoting risk reduction strategies that protect development investments.

## 9. The World Reconstruction Conference

9.1 Recognized that support to countries overwhelmed by the scale and cost of post-disaster reconstruction is often inadequately coordinated. Uneven and unpredictable financing does not always reach those who need it. Few countries incorporate disaster prevention into reconstruction and recovery planning, thus threatening development prospects and sustainability of investments.

9.2 Recognized, based on lessons from previous experience, that well-planned and coordinated recovery achieves better results at lower cost, and supports sustainability and disaster-resilience. Leadership, partnership and coordinated support from the international community are essential to success. “Invest today for a Safer Tomorrow – Increase Investment in Local Action.”

9.3 Committed to developing an effective recovery and reconstruction framework. This recovery framework would aim to:

- o Better define roles and responsibilities within clear institutional arrangements;
- o Effectively capitalize on the strengths of each stakeholder;
- o Clearly place countries in the driver’s seat on decision-making and resource allocation;
- o Systematically integrate disaster risk reduction in reconstruction and recovery;
- o Provide in-time relevant knowledge and lessons learned; and
- o Assist in establishing robust and transparent quality and result monitoring systems.

9.4 Committed to developing improved systems and instruments for recovery and reconstruction finance and welcomed the leadership of the World Bank and the role of other international financial institutions in this effort. These mechanisms would provide access to reliable reconstruction financing; build capacity to manage the surge of resources; effectively integrate the resources of non-traditional donors; and access the global capital market.

9.5 Promoted a global reconstruction and recovery knowledge practice, linking practitioners and networks working on reconstruction and recovery to provide open access to data and information.

10. The Third Session of the Global Platform closed with a call for strengthened global leadership to address rapidly increasing risk to stability and sustainability posed by our approach to development. This chair’s summary will be followed-up and reported on in the Fourth Session of the Global Platform.

30 May 2011

Geneva, Switzerland

### **Commitments at the Second Session of the Global Platform in 2009**

- By 2011, national assessments of the safety of existing education and health facilities should be undertaken.
- By 2015, concrete action plans for safer schools and hospitals should be developed and implemented in all disaster prone countries.
- Disaster risk reduction should be included in all school curricula by the same year.
- By 2015, all major cities in disaster-prone areas should include and enforce disaster risk reduction measures in their building and land use codes.
- Targets also proposed for: national risk assessments, municipal disaster recovery plans, early warning systems, water risks and the enforcement of building codes.
- The UN Secretary-General called for a target to halve the losses of lives from disasters by 2015, when the term of the Hyogo Framework for Action ends.
- 10 per cent of humanitarian relief funds to disaster risk reduction work.
- 10 per cent as a target share of post-disaster reconstruction and recovery projects and national preparedness and response plans.
- At least 1 per cent of all national development funding and all development assistance funding to be allocated to risk reduction measures, with due regard for quality of impact.

## THE VOICE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

On behalf of the parliamentarians attending this conference, I would like to express our grateful appreciation to UNISDR for the opportunity to participate and to be heard in the forums of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The dialogue among parliamentarians and mayors was well attended and most insightful. We shared views, experiences, and recommendations on advancing disaster risk reduction focused on translating policies into local actions and increasing investment and funding.

The dialogue effectively drew out the common concerns and current challenges that confront many countries and communities today.

As elected public officials, we share the common view that parliamentarians and mayors have a vital complementary role to play to promote national and global efforts for resilient development.

As elected leaders, parliamentarians shall work together to create the enabling environment for investing more in building community resilience and to put a human face to risk and vulnerability reduction.

Moreover, as parliamentarians, we shall exercise our mandated oversight roles which will ensure good governance of risk reduction. We are in a position to introduce laws that could enhance and promote risk-sensitive development policies and programs as well as increase investment in risk reduction. We could also request government agencies to report to the parliament their respective progress in reducing disaster risk.

Given the increasing prevalence of disaster risk and the current state of national capacities for disaster risk reduction, the challenge at hand is enormous. Yet with political will and genuine commitment to action, we believe much can be done and could be achieved.

Strengthening legislation at the national and local levels is important to ensure sustained funding and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into development processes. The landmark laws on disaster risk reduction and climate change in the Philippines highlights the importance of this intervention.

Disaster risk reduction is a responsibility shared by all. To effectively reduce risk, we must all act as one. It calls for multi-partnerships, concerted action, integration of efforts, engaging the private sector and academe, and securing funding and investments.

As we unite against risk, we, parliamentarians, agreed to transcend partisan politics and attain synergy of action in favor of achieving our shared goal of sustainable development. We have agreed then to promote disaster risk reduction as a trans-party agenda demonstrative of our political REPORTING ON THE DIALOGUE AMONG PARLIAMENTARIANS AND MAYORS.

In this regard, I am pleased to inform you that the parliamentarians who attended this Global Platform have been active in advancing disaster risk reduction in their respective regions and countries. And, they have expressed to do more. These actions include (1) setting up of national committees on disaster risk reduction, (2) organizing high-level executive briefings on the importance of disaster risk reduction as part of the government's preparation for the United Nation's Rio +20 Conference on Sustainable Development next year, and (3) bringing the messages and outcomes of this global dialogue to our respective parliaments.

Finally, we earnestly call on other stakeholders, especially the executive branch of government, to immediately translate the outcome of this conference into concrete actions at the national and local levels.

As political leaders, we have a moral responsibility to act and arrest this chronic problem of disaster risk. And the urgency for more effective action has never been more pronounced than now. Otherwise, we will never achieve our goal of sustainable development.

In this regard, I am pleased to inform you that the parliamentarians who attended this Global Platform have been active in advancing disaster risk reduction in their respective regions and countries. And, they have expressed to do more. These actions include (1) setting up of national committees on disaster risk reduction, (2) organizing high-level executive briefings on the importance of disaster risk reduction as part of the government's preparation for the United Nation's Rio +20 Conference on Sustainable Development next year, and (3) bringing the messages and outcomes of this global dialogue to our respective parliaments.

Finally, we earnestly call on other stakeholders, especially the executive branch of government, to immediately translate the outcome of this conference into concrete actions at the national and local levels.

As political leaders, we have a moral responsibility to act and arrest this chronic problem of disaster risk. And the urgency for more effective action has never been more pronounced than now.



## **Voice of Men and Women on Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender Sensitive**

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

I speak before you on behalf of women and men who attended the Roundtable Discussion on Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive.

As the first official session of the Global Platform on gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction, the dialogue was well attended and insightful of the challenges at hand. About 180 participants from various disciplines attended, including 50 men.

With high-level panelists and active audiences, the forum enabled us to discuss the importance of gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction as well as the challenges and opportunities to implement it at all levels.

The forum emphasized the viewpoint that women are leaders and effective catalysts of change and solutions and not merely referred to as among the vulnerable groups or passive victims of disasters.

In integrating the gender perspective into disaster risk reduction is an integral component and an important prerequisite of sustainable development. With it, we build the resilience of countries and communities to disasters. Yet the strategy remains a challenge. And while it is a work-in-progress, the pace by which we work to attain it is reportedly slow at all levels.

We cannot allow the situation to remain so. We must therefore augment, accelerate, and sustain our efforts in raising awareness and in building the capacity of governments and communities for mainstreaming gender and disaster risk reduction into development.

To deliver desired results on the ground, we must all work together double time. Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction and gender is a collective challenge that calls for building alliances and multi-partnerships, and for transcending political affiliations. It should therefore remain as a major Global Platform agenda.

Taking a gender perspective in DRR has less to do with political correctness and more to do with effective development, preventing and mitigating the effects of disasters on the most vulnerable and the equitable sharing of benefits.

Moreover, addressing gender imbalance and differentiation needs to consider access to information, knowledge and decision-making tools as well as to strategies for adapting to climate change, among others.

Finally, government accountability in mainstreaming gender perspective should also be addressed with the active role of parliamentarians and civil societies, requesting governments to report HFA progress in accordance with UNISDR guidelines and indicators.