



Name of Event: [Preparatory Event] Centro de Coordinación para la Prevención de los Desastres Naturales en América Central (CEPREDENAC) – Disaster Risk Reduction Analysis in Central America

Date of Event: May 9, 2011

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Speakers:

- Rafael Ramírez, Nicaragua, Presidente Pro Tempore of CEPREDENAC
- Vanessa Rosales, Costa Rica, Director
- Jorge Meléndez, El Salvador, Director
- Iván Morales, Executive Secretary, CEPREDENAC
- Ricardo Mena, UNISDR-Americas

1) Outline

Recent developments in DRR in Central America are marked by the adoption of Central American Integrated Risk Management (PCGIR) that was approved by Heads of State of Central America in 2010 showing the political commitment at the highest political level. The challenge now will be the implementation of this policy at the national level in all of CEPREDENAC's Member States.

2) Key messages, outcomes, recommendations

A preventive rather than reactive approach has been adopted in Central America. Main priorities being supported include the following:

- Risk-sensitive public investment
- Establishment of a Central America Integrated Risk Management Fund (FOCEGIR)
- Development of an information platform
- Strengthening disaster preparedness
- Involving local governments in DRR actions

3) Conclusions

Main points mentioned by the representatives of CEPREDENAC in their closing remarks referred to the need to increase public investment in DRR, the importance of sound territorial planning, risk transference mechanisms, as well as the need to enhance income generation opportunities for the population as the key element to reduce their level of vulnerability. Another aspect highlighted was the need to allocated sufficient resources for reconstruction activities. Otherwise, reconstruction will most likely reproduce preexisting vulnerability conditions. In closing, one of CEPREDENAC's Directors expressed his wish that the Global Platform would provide a space for sharing Central America's message.