



Name of Event: [Preparatory Event] National Platform Meeting – Enhancing Disaster Risk Reduction through Better Governance

Date of Event: May 9, 2011

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1) Outline

The Meeting of National Platforms aimed to: a) look into existing governance mechanisms which support Government action for disaster risk reduction and effective implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action at the national and local levels; and b) identifying ways forward for improved and more efficient governance and institutional arrangements for disaster risk reduction. Presentations were made by representatives of National Platforms, as well as the European Network of National Platforms, on effective and innovative mechanisms or approaches in their own country/ regional contexts, challenges faced and lessons learned, and priority actions for governance in relation to disaster risk reduction.

2) Key Messages, outcomes and recommendations

- There is a need to measure progress and impacts in disaster risk reduction through identifying targets, indicators, outcomes and workplans.
- Strong policy instruments, legislations, protocol and frameworks, which are developed on the basis of research on disaster risk reduction, are important tools for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action.
- Disaster risk reduction should be decentralized; the roles, responsibilities and capacities of local government should be reinforced. Additionally, local communities, the private sector, academia, civil society actors should be involved in Hyogo Framework for Action implementation and in National Platforms.
- The linkage between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction should be strengthened. Private and public sector partnerships related to the design and implementation of disaster risk management alternatives at all levels (local-national) should be promoted.

- National Platforms need commitment from the political leadership/ decision-makers and sustainable financial support in order to be able to function and serve their purpose as coordination mechanisms for disaster risk reduction at the country-level.

3) Conclusions

The Facilitator highlighted the importance of National Platforms in developing a culture of prevention and of information-sharing and knowledge transfer as means to get the public and youth involved. She emphasized the need to strengthen the institutional/ legal basis of disaster risk reduction and to make strong linkages between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. She encouraged those present to continue their cooperative efforts (i.e. local, national, regional, cross-border, etc.) and to endeavor towards the establishment of multi-stakeholder National Platforms.