

Statement by H.E. Mr. Kenichi Suganuma
Ambassador in charge of the Third UN World Conference
on Disaster Risk Reduction
at the Second Session of Preparatory Committee
(November 17-18, Geneva)

Chairperson,

It is my greatest pleasure to deliver a statement as the representative of the host country of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) at the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee.

First, I would like to express my deep appreciation to our co-Chairs, Ambassador Thongphakdi and Ambassador Kairamo and the secretariat of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) for their great contribution to the preparation of WCDRR, especially the drafting of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

I am delighted to find that the present Zero Draft has improved a great deal from the previous pre-Zero draft and has become a solid basis for further adjustment. Among the newly added elements of the present Zero Draft, Japan attached importance to (1) the responsibility of the central government and the role of local authorities, communities, business sector and civil society, (2) investment in disaster prevention and mitigation, and (3) the policy of “Build Back Better.” We will make additional concrete proposals during the consideration of the text. We strongly hope that the post-HFA will become a useful reference for DRR practitioners to promote DRR policies in each country.

Second, in regard to the Political Declaration, since many high level figures from the member states are expected to participate in WCDRR, Japan, as a facilitator, aims to summarize their political determination toward DRR into concise and impactful documents. We are thoroughly convinced that the Political Declaration should accommodate important elements including among others human security, integrating DRR into the post-2015 development agenda, and “Build Back Better.” I would like to ask for the kind cooperation and assistance from member states in finalizing a concise declaration that will have a real political impact needed for this important topic.

Let me conclude my statement by wishing a fruitful outcome of this meeting toward the WCDRR in March next year.

Thank you for your kind attention.

(End)