



KENYA

STATEMENT

BY

ANTHONY ANDANJE  
AMBASSADOR/DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS, GENEVA

ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
3<sup>RD</sup> SESSION OF THE GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER  
RISK REDUCTION

12<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2011

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Distinguished Delegates,

You will recall, the President of Indonesia's recent address at the opening ceremony and I quote, *"Disaster affecting one country ultimately affects all humanity."*

It is incumbent upon us to give the challenge we face our utmost attention.

Increased cooperation, innovative thinking, sharing of experiences and lessons, capacity building and finance should be at the heart of our endeavours.

Developing countries, including Kenya are not only prone to disaster, but are highly vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change.

This was recognized at the Second African Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Nairobi in April, 2010. It is important that the special needs and aspirations for sustainable development are taken into account.

In Kenya, Government efforts are aimed at poverty reduction. Facilitating the integration of disaster risk reduction into development is a key priority.

Considering that we are at mid-point of the Hyogo Framework for Action, Kenya is undertaking measures to conform to the five priority areas. We are convinced the outcome of this Session will strengthen further policy initiatives.

Distinguished Delegates,

You will recall, the President of Indonesia's recent address at the opening ceremony and I quote, *"Disaster affecting one country ultimately affects all humanity."*

It is incumbent upon us to give the challenge we face our utmost attention.

Increased cooperation, innovative thinking, sharing of experiences and lessons, capacity building and finance should be at the heart of our endeavours.

Developing countries, including Kenya are not only prone to disaster, but are highly vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change.

This was recognized at the Second African Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction held in Nairobi in April, 2010. It is important that the special needs and aspirations for sustainable development are taken into account.

In Kenya, Government efforts are aimed at poverty reduction. Facilitating the integration of disaster risk reduction into development is a key priority.

Considering that we are at mid-point of the Hyogo Framework for Action, Kenya is undertaking measures to conform to the five priority areas. We are convinced the outcome of this Session will strengthen further policy initiatives.

Many calls for strong political commitment have been made over the last few days. The Hyogo Mid-Term Review highlights the thinking of a post – 2015 framework. As stakeholders faced with the challenge of Disaster Risk Reduction, we must not shy away from thinking about the future today.

Nethertheless, Kenya stresses that whatever framework we develop, we must ensure that sustainable development and climate change adaptation remain at the center of the mechanism.

**Madam Chair,  
Distinguished Delegates,**

Judging by recent events, disasters are becoming more frequent and unpredictable. However, my delegation is convinced that by working together we can collectively address the challenges we face.

Kenya believes the United Nations should continue to play its central role in providing leadership in disaster risk reduction.

The valuable work of the UNISDR attests to this fact.

We highly appreciate the important work that the Regional Office for Africa is carrying out in partnership with countries of the region and the African Union.

Thank you.