



UN Major Group for **Children and Youth** childrenyouth.org

*November 17th 2014
Geneva Switzerland*

STATEMENT

United Nation Major Group for Children & Youth Preparatory Committee, second session

Dear Chairs, delegates, and civil society representatives:

We stand at a moment in time of exceptional possibilities - a moment when goals that long seemed unreachable, and a development paradigm that moves beyond growth was dismissed, are at last within our reach. Sustainable development is compromised by disaster. You must realise we are not just negotiating goals and objectives, but lives and futures.

We are here to show that young people are not just victims, but part of the solution.
We bring innovation, motivation and intense capacity acting as full and equal partners in DRR.

We as the Major Group would like to see a strengthened language in the following points:

Accountability and Governance

The framework requires a robust governance and accountability mechanism for Disaster Risk Reduction. No commitment, even voluntary, is free from being held accountable. There is the need to elaborate on time frames, process and joint monitoring that officially includes all stakeholders, especially children and youth as partners for resilience.

All-hazard approach

Children and youth worldwide believe that the framework is incomplete without addressing disaster risk in the context of conflicts, other shocks and stresses. It is thus essential that the post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction is practically aligned with other relevant processes being negotiated, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the New Deal, Financing for Development, the World Humanitarian Summit and Climate Change; thereby calling for an all-hazard approach.

Financing and the Three Pillars of SD

A well financed framework is an effective and implementable framework. It is critical that efforts are made to ensure that the financial aspect of DRR are supported. In addition to generating new liquidity, it is imperative to create a macroeconomic environment which discourages activities that enhance underlying risk factors, for example UNEP's Environmental Risk Integration in Sovereign Credits, or E-RISC. Ecological Tax Reform and a Carbon Tax should also be central to funding our post-2015 framework for DRR. Furthermore, the financing mechanisms we just mentioned can certainly help us usher in a more transformative and meaningful post-2015 development agenda, which takes into account the interconnectedness between the three pillars of sustainability: social, environmental and economic



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Conclusion

A post-2015 Framework for DRR should incorporate the benefits, rights and responsibilities of children and youth in Risk Reduction and resilience in specific and concrete ways. Children and youth are the future of our world, and hence we must be formally included in all phases of a disaster - as well as in all aspects of the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the new framework. We encourage you to help us build life skills for the future that will enable us to apply our innate creativity and innovation to help resolve the challenges that disasters bring to all of us.

We support strengthening the post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reductions targets so that they will be measurable indicators of progress, particularly those that impact our lives directly, and we have specific suggestions for how this may be done (for instance, with the use of scorecards.) We are committed to working with you, to encouraging you and supporting you as partners for resilience. We will challenge you, and above all, we will hold you accountable.

For the future is ours together, and because we are here, we are here to stay