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STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA

General Segment Second Session of the Preparatory Committee for the UN Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

17 November 2014

Distinguished Co-Chairs,

At the outset, my delegation would like to associate ourselves with the statements delivered by Myanmar on behalf of ASEAN.

2. We very much appreciate the Co-Chairs' efforts in preparing the zero draft and in trying to bridge the many inputs, views and comments expressed by Member States.
3. We have come at a critical juncture in our efforts to make a huge difference in the world we live in. We have the opportunity to transform our world to make it safer in order to protect our economy and people, especially the vulnerable, from the devastating effects of natural disasters exacerbated further by poverty, climate change, unsustainable development, corruption and mismanagement.
4. In our effort to make improvements, it is imperative that we come up with a document that not only further strengthens our focus on reducing disaster risks but also one that linked-up with other international community's commitments and agreements related to our common desire to further improve our efforts to reduce risks of disasters.
5. In 2015, we are expected to adopt two other strategic documents, namely the post-2015 development agenda and the global agreement on climate change. Malaysia wishes to emphasise the importance of maintaining the coherence and alignment across policies, practices and partnership for the implementation of the aforementioned post-2015 initiatives, the post-2015 framework on DRR as well as the already adopted Sustainable Development Agenda.
6. Questions have also been posed as to whether the post-HFA Framework should be considered to carry more binding duties and obligations to be discharged by those signing it. In this regard, we must recognise that institutions in the developing and underdeveloped world are already struggling to manage their development efforts let alone disaster risks and inherent vulnerability to natural hazards. Malaysia is of the view that the strength of the HFA today is due to its

voluntary nature and as such we should avoid the use of binding terms in the successor document.

7. We should strive instead on a framework that is flexible and implementable by the range of situations that countries and local communities find themselves in. The framework should recognize and provide different starting points and different choices while prioritizing actions. This will facilitate the identification of supporting actions and monitoring of progress.

8. The successor document should also reflect on the obligations of the international community, particularly the developed nations towards supporting the less developed countries in strengthening their national capacity to build resilience and ability to identify and address the underlying causes of disasters.

9. In conclusion, we wish to reaffirm our commitment to reducing disaster risks and our continual efforts towards implementing the HFA and its successor framework document. We look forward to the seeing a fruitful outcome of the negotiation process.

Thank you.

GENEVA
17 November 2014