

Nepal

16/17 November Preparatory Meeting for World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

Nepal Country Statement 3 Minute Speech: World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

yadavprasad koirala
Nepal.

Respected Chairperson, Excellency's, Distinguished Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

1. On behalf of the Government of Nepal, I would like to express my sincere thanks to UNISDR for welcoming us here today and for organizing this important meeting as we prepare for the World Conference in March 2015.

Nepal has been a committed signatory to the HFA, which has provided us guidance and support in developing our disaster risk management approach. As a signatory to the HFA, we have developed a National Strategy for Disaster Risk Management. Based on this strategy, we have drafted a Disaster Management Act, which is currently undergoing the process for approval.

2. Since our last meeting in July, Nepal has experienced the grim reality of the impact disasters can have. These recurrent disasters will only become more frequent and occur with greater intensity, threatening more lives across countries such as Nepal. While we reflect with pride on the tremendous DRM gains in Nepal over the last decade it is also clear that the acute vulnerability of our country means that the vast majority of the work is still to be undertaken.
3. Now we will seek to scale this up and to focus on national risk assessment, stronger mechanisms for prediction and early warning, and strengthened emergency operation centre capacity.
4. Disaster risk reduction cannot be a stand-alone process; it must be integrated and prioritized across government and across sectors. In Nepal, we have made great strides in our commitment to the Millennium Development Goals; however, we have not always been successful in ensuring that these achievements are risk sensitive. In HFA 2, it will be crucial to ensure risk reduction and adaptation are aligned and embedded with development priorities across sectors.
5. Such risk reduction efforts can only be effective if we engage all stakeholders, particularly the private sector. In Nepal, increased engagement with private sector is a priority of the Government.
6. Lastly, we must ensure an effective monitoring and evaluation framework is in place for HFA2. It is critical that we can translate this global framework into practical and real solutions at the national and local level and this must be done through mechanism, which does not pose an overwhelming burden on States such as Nepal.
7. The HFA2 process is an important opportunity for the global community to collectively recognize the importance of disaster risk reduction in the next decade and to build on the progress made with HFA1. We are looking forward to working with this process ensuring resilience in our development efforts.

Thank You.