**Official Statement of DPR of Korea by Mr. Kang Il Sop,
Chairman of the State Committee for Emergency and Disaster Management**

**Mr. President,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**On behalf of the government of DPR Korea, I express due appreciation to the Government of the United Mexican States and UNISDR for all efforts devoted to organizing and successfully opening the 2017 Global Platform for DRR in such a beautiful picturesque Cancun.**

**I also join all the participants in expressing deep thanks for conveniences and hospitality.**

**Mr. President,**

**The disaster prevention work in the DPR Korea, since its beginning, has been conducted in all-society and all-nation manner with primary focus on people under the personnel initiatives and meticulous guidance of the great leaders.**

**This has led to a well-streamed establishment of national disaster prevention and response mechanism in different sectors and regions for different hazard types and timeframe and it is under constant operation.**

**The flood occurred between the end of August and the beginning of September last year in the northern part of the country once again demonstrated the DPRK´s capability of effectively coping with disaster at the national level and throughout whole society.**

**The flood, biggest in the history of meteorological observation since country´s liberation 1945, demolished over 11,600 dwelling houses and hundreds of public buildings, destroyed transportation network, power supply, factories and enterprises, farmland, left tens of thousands people without home and brought heavy calamities upon economy and livelihood in the north Hamgyong province.**

**In order that flood-stricken people would not suffer from the imminent cold weather Kim Jong Un, the supreme leader of our party, state and army set building dwelling houses, hospitals/clinics, schools, nurseries and kindergartens as first priority and saw to it that all national resources – human, material, technical – were mobilized and concentrated.**

**By virtue of respect-the people, love-the people politics of supreme leader and great unity of the army and people, a new streets and villages, which would stand up to any future stormy weather, have spruced up in a far distant northern end of the country in just over a two-month period.**

**Availing of this opportunity our delegation extends heartfelt thanks to all governments and their people, various international organizations for the support and assistance, both material and spiritual.**

**Mr. President,**

**DPRK government took several proactive steps to further develop its DRR work in conformity with the Sendai Framework since its adoption.**

**Review and revision process for principal and related laws on DRR is at its final phase and formulation of national strategy, sectoral/regional long/mid-term plan as well as local short-term plan is underway.**

**Progresses are being made in establishing disaster data base, improving technical capacity of DRR experts and putting all processes of DRR for different hazard types on the basis of science and technology and advanced methodology.**

**The DPRK government worked out a national strategy and implementation plan to afforest and reforest 1.67 million hectares which is 20% of its intermountain area by 2024 and is making good headway through all-people campaign. Thus the DRR work is being conducted in a close link with the Paris Agreement.**

**DPRK government will continue to make every effort to achieve much earlier the goal and targets in the Sendai framework basing itself thoroughly bon the idea of giving focus on people.**

**Affirming its active cooperation with all governments, international organizations and partners, the DPRK delegation would like to touch on some issues and points which we consider important for above implementation.**

**First, we have to continue to create a condition conducive for the acceleration of international collaboration in DRR.**

**To begin with, financial resources that could support developing and the LDC countries in DRR are essential.**

**There are several global-scale financial resources that can be used for DRR purposes but they cannot be said as specialized resources.**

**Installation of DRR specific resources like Global Climate Fund and improvement of their function and role are one of key issues for a full and practical implementation of Sendai Framework by developing and LDC countries.**

**Next, practical steps should be taken to help states, regions and communities in solving scientific and technical problems arising in DRR.**

**For this end, it would be good if we had an international data service center that synthesizes and disseminates successes, experiences, lessons, best practices and research results gained in DRR.**

**Last but not least, we need to pay continued attention to the issue of creating a more favorable climate for international cooperation in DRR.**

**However, it is regretful to say that we still find illegal and anti-ethical acts of depriving the sovereign state of its rights to survival, let alone its rights to development, being perpetrated on the international arena in pursuit of improper political, economic and military purposes.**

**We shouldn’t allow for any account unilateral sanctions and isolation policy against specific countries to hamper international collaboration for DRR.**

**Thank you,**