Delivered by: Undersecretary ALEXANDER P. PAMA
Administrator, Office of Civil Defense and
Executive Director, National Disaster Risk Reduction and
Management Council

Distinguished Co-Chair,

Delegates, ladies and gentlemen.

1. First and foremost, on behalf of the Filipino People, thank you once again for the help you extended to us in the aftermath of Typhoon Haiyan.

2. Today, the Philippines would like to thank the co-Chairs, the Bureau members and the Secretariat for convening this PrepCom, and for preparing the zero draft.

3. We associate ourselves with the statement of Myanmar on behalf of ASEAN.

4. My delegation represents the member agencies of the Philippine National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, as a team in full support for the Road to Sendai.

5. As a country that is one of the most frequently hit by disasters, the Philippines has much to share.
6. First, we welcome and appreciate the zero draft, which highlights the centrality of States in enhancing risk governance, transparency, responsibility and accountability, complemented by a mutually reinforcing multi-stakeholder partnership between the State, and national and international DRR actors.

7. However, the draft needs to strengthen the section on international cooperation and global partnership, in the prevention and preparedness phase; in the response phase; and in the recovery and rehabilitation phase, in order to assist developing countries, particularly those in vulnerable situations to achieve a culture of resilience in all aspects.

8. Second, we have introduced Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA), a tool and process that addresses the possible risks and impacts of impending hazards of particular areas in a manner that is “Hazard specific, Area focused, and Time bound” going beyond “across the board” warning signals.

9. Third, we prioritized the further institutionalization and strengthening of our DRRM framework, particularly for Recovery and Rehabilitation. Our Haiyan experience underscored the need to “build back better, safer and faster” to promote resilience for development.
10. Fourth, Public-Private partnership for enterprise development and risk financing is vital. Increase in disaster damages and losses underscores the need for more responsive risks transfer mechanisms and the ensuring of business continuity.

11. We also welcome the inclusion of migrants in the zero draft and reiterate that we should ensure their role in DRR.

12. Finally, on the Political Declaration, we welcome the call for the international community to take shared responsibility, adoption of a people-centered approach, investment in recovery and reconstruction and the acquisition of resources for DRR.

Thank you, Distinguished Co-Chair.

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