



Date: July 14, 2014

**Bangladesh Statement for the First Preparatory Committee Meeting  
for the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction  
Geneva, 14-15 July 2014**

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Thank you, Chair.

**Hon'ble Ministers, Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates,**

Let me begin by expressing our sincere appreciation and thanks to the two Co-Chairs, Bureau Members, UNISDR Secretariat, and to the Government of Switzerland and Japan for their commendable preparatory works leading up to this excellent arrangement for the First Prep Com.

**Mr. chair,**

Bangladesh believes, the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) despite its limitations, has been instrumental for DRR in securing policy space and success in preparedness fostering public awareness, placing warning systems, forging community led approach and collaboration between the government and other stake holders. And most importantly, reduction of loss of lives. Therefore, we strongly support a post 2015 framework, which builds upon the present HFA.

In the meantime, our understanding of disasters and the capacity to manage disasters have also been broadened. We duly note that disaster is no longer an external shock or *fait accompli* but is actually a combined result of **hazard, exposure, & vulnerability**.

Since the HFA Priority for Action 4 is all about reducing the underlying risk factors, we consider climate change is an integral element into DRR structure. Therefore, to ensure sustainable development and 'building resilience', the post 2015 framework must take DRR and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) together. And, 'building resilience' should be our shared vision to attain the desired outcome.

**Mr. Chair,**

For resilience, we need a forward looking approach – 'transformation from reaction to pro-action' and investment for the future with a clear objective of reducing all kinds of losses. To develop a framework for DRR, essentially the question comes: ***who among us, the nations, are incurring losses and facing the underlying risks for support. And particularly, who are the most disaster prone and vulnerable for disaster losses for special attention?***

In this context, 'Shared responsibility' should be the core in support mechanism having the 'desired coherence' among DRR, CCA and SDGs. The scope of the proposed framework, if considers only the responsibilities of the national government only, then, Mr. Chair, we believe it necessitates revision of the scope of the post 2015 DRR framework, and include meaningful 'global partnership and international cooperation' as an important pillar. And, International cooperation shouldn't be limited to only cooperation among the relevant International Organizations.

At the national level with the support of our partners, we can bring synergy between DRR, CCA and Sustainable Development Goals by prioritizing areas, such as, food security; social protection particularly for women and children; health; agriculture, fisheries and livestock; water and salinity ; infrastructure; internal and cross border displacement of population; comprehensive disaster management;; research and knowledge management; mitigation and low-carbon development; capacity building and institutional strengthening.

These elements need to be articulated with necessary background for further consideration.

**Mr. Chair,**

Considering the existing financial and fiscal instruments to support risk sensitive public and private investments , the proposed element for a ***'specific insurance scheme'*** for disaster prone population for their possible losses from disaster and climatic onslaughts seems to be not a practical idea for every country and for every community. It needs more clarity and reflections.

**Mr. Chair,**

While appreciating the elements articulated in the SRSG's suggested elements for the post 2015 framework for DRR and its Plan of Action and Implementation, Bangladesh strongly recommends the following:

- i) Additional goal: **Increase synergy between Sustainable Development Goals, Disaster Risks Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation**].
- ii) For Implementation, 'global partnership and International cooperation' be included as crucially important vehicle.
- iii) A **permanent UN led process** inducting all International Organizations, partners and global stake holders.
- iv) A binding commitment for a percentage of ODA earmarked for building synergy between disaster resilience and climate change adaptation.

- v) A commitment of predictable resources for DRR particularly earmarking a meaningful share for the disaster prone and climatically vulnerable countries.
- vi) For Monitoring and Review, 3 years should be better instead of 4 years.

**Mr. Chair,**

Regarding global Targets and Indicators, Bangladesh appreciates the elements proposed at SMSG's paper. However we would like to propose "Agriculture, Infrastructure, displacement of population" is also considered while fixing a target for the disaster damage outlined as Goal-C (SMSG's paper on elements). And, forging a meaningful and effective 'global partnership' to address the global challenges of disaster and the underlying risks *is another goal*.

**Mr. Chair,**

We all are aware; risk cannot be prevented or reduced to zero. But we must address this herculean challenge together. Therefore besides individual country efforts, given its resource and capacity constraints needs support from others.

If we want to see the post 2015 HFA successful, we need to have a synergy among DRR, CCA and SDG mechanisms. And above all, a true global partnership.

Thank you all.