

**First Session of the Preparatory Committee (Prep Com 1)
of the
Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction**

Considerations for the Post 2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

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Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I join the others in congratulating you and your bureau for your election to lead this Preparatory Committee Meeting of the Third World Conference on DRR.

Chair, I am making this statement in my capacity as the Chair of the 2014 Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management.

The Sixth Session of the Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management was convened in Suva, Fiji from 2nd – 4th June 2014.

The broad objectives of this meeting were twofold: Firstly, the meeting aimed to build consensus among diverse Pacific stakeholders on the key elements and implementation aspects of the HFA2. Secondly, the meeting sought to obtain the endorsement of DRM stakeholders for the draft Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific (SRDP), a new regional strategy that integrates climate change and disaster risk management in a single framework centred on the concept of resilient development. This strategy will succeed the current two separate regional Pacific frameworks on climate change and DRM that both run their course in 2015.

The meeting was extremely well attended with participants representing different stakeholder groups including civil society, private sector, national government, local government and community representatives, donors, development partners, representatives of the scientific and academic community and others.

The meeting first and foremost committed to strengthening the ongoing collaborative efforts, aimed at preventing risk accumulation and building resilience in Pacific Island Countries and Territories, while involving all stakeholders, and giving special consideration to the needs of the most vulnerable and to the observation of human rights.

Several key issues were raised in relation to the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction:

First, the meeting acknowledged the contributions of the Hyogo Framework for Action in assisting the Pacific region to build stronger and more resilient communities while also recognizing that more efforts will be needed to prevent risk accumulation and build resilience in the Pacific, for the benefit of the current and future generations.

The importance of adopting a whole-of-society approach was stressed numerous times. Different stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society, private sector and development partners all have a unique and essential role to play in building resilience. For example, developing incentives for the private sector to increase their investment in disaster

risk management, climate change adaptation and low carbon development, and developing useful partnerships with government agencies, is seen as a priority for the coming years.

The notion of inclusivity was highlighted as central to the processes of building resilience. Persons with disabilities, women and men, the elderly, children, youth, migrants and volunteers are all recognized as powerful agents for change. Their unique skills, knowledge and experience must be incorporated in the development and implementation of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The meeting encouraged the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction to make the appropriate linkages with other global processes, including the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals and the new global Climate Change agreements, in order to strengthen coherence and mutual reinforcement of these international mechanisms.

The meeting also stressed the importance of developing a strong mechanism for supporting the implementation and monitoring of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific region, and to assist Pacific Island Countries and Territories in the reporting process. In this regard, the reporting process should also be aligned with that of the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific.

The UNISDR was tasked with furthering the cooperation and coordination with Pacific countries and other stakeholders to implement and periodically review progress of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Finally, the meeting urged the full and meaningful involvement of youth, women and persons with disabilities in gender balanced delegations to the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which will take place in 2015. At this important forum, Pacific partners will be encouraged to share case studies and experiences from the Pacific region, in the integration and mainstreaming of disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and sustainable development. The region will also take this opportunity to share lessons from the development of the Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific.

Chair, I thank you.