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Item 10 (f) of the provisional agenda*

NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION: WARNING SYSTEMS

Technical session

Programme

The technical session on warning systems has been organized by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Objective. Many lives can be saved and enormous destruction of property avoided in natural disasters by warnings and response to the warnings, that is preparedness measures at all levels. The objective of this technical session is to provide an opportunity for an exchange of information on views between scientists, practitioners, users of warnings, policy makers and others concerned on all facets of warnings related to natural disaster reduction.

Output. Executive summary with conclusions and recommendations.

Part One (2 hours 5 minutes)

Presentations

Forecasts and warnings of natural disasters and the roles of national and international agencies.

Professor J. Hunt, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

(15 minutes)

Risk management and assessment for natural hazards.

Professor Dr. E. Plate, Germany

(15 minutes)

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Impacts of warnings on loss of life and property caused by meteorological events: trends and future prospects.

Dr. R.C. Sheets, United States of America (15 minutes)

Flood and landslide warning systems.

Dr. M. Spreafico, Switzerland (15 minutes)

Earthquakes and tsunamis: ways of reducing risks.

Dr. E. Lorca, Chile (15 minutes)

A warning system for active volcanoes and responses to warnings.

Dr. R.S. Punongbayan, Philippines (15 minutes)

Screening

Video on natural disaster reduction: "How Meteorological and Hydrological Services Can Help".

(15 minutes)

Presentation

Dissemination of and response to community-based warnings.

Mr. T. Ono, Japan (15 minutes)

Technical Adviser: Dr. F. Yoshino, Japan

Part Two. Panel discussion (55 minutes)

The discussion will be led by a Panel moderator and six Panel members from governmental and non-governmental organizations of seven countries, ranging from those with large populations to a small island State, and experts active in various fields, including civil defence, community involvement, planning and development, science, engineering and technology, and the interface between warnings, preparedness and the media.
