

**FIRST MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRD
UN WORLD CONFERENCE ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

Agenda Item 5: Organization of the World Conference

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for Disaster Risk Reduction**

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In December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly decided that the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction will be held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015 and at the highest possible level.

With the following objectives:

1. To complete the assessment and review of the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;
2. To consider the experience gained through the regional and national strategies, institutions and plans for disaster risk reduction and their recommendations as well as relevant regional agreements under the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action;
3. To consider and adopt a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction;

4. To identify modalities of cooperation based on commitments to implement a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction; and
5. To determine modalities for periodic review of the implementation of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

A note from the secretariat (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/4) reports on the progress on organization of the World Conference and describes the consultations and the development of a draft programme. The report details the continuity of world conferences on disaster risk reduction, the launch of the consultation process for a post-2015 framework, the draft provisional programme and early organizational matters.

Now, a few words on the preparations for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction itself:

The accreditation process:

It was initiated for today's first Preparatory Committee meeting and will be pursued until November 2014. Registration for the World Conference itself will open very shortly.

The provisional programme of the World Conference:

Per usual practice at UN conferences, a formal inter-governmental segment will be held, as well as a multi-stakeholder segment with working sessions and a public segment open to all -which will include exhibitions, a market place, documentaries, workshops, children and youth events, sand many others.

The voluntary commitments:

The General Assembly invited voluntary commitments by all stakeholders to help implement a post-2015 framework and the work of disaster risk reduction over the coming years. At the moment, numerous commitments have been registered in the World Conference website, for example from the Nepal Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, which promised to support 130 municipalities to prepare local disaster risk management plans. Similarly, in Asia a network of organisations including Plan International, Save the Children, UNICEF and World Vision have committed to the implementation of a comprehensive school safety programme.

The website of the World Conference:

It is the main source of substantive and logistical information and is updated on a regular basis.

I also take this opportunity to highlight that the 2015 Sasakawa Award process has been launched. I encourage those of you who intend to do so to submit applications by 31 October 2014.

On the financial side:

The General Assembly urged international and bilateral donors, as well as the private sector, financial institutions, foundations and all other donors to support the preparations for the World Conference through voluntary contributions to the trust fund for disaster reduction.

To this end, the UNISDR secretariat prepared a funding request to reflect requirements to cover the costs related to the World Conference and the strategic process and consultations leading up to the Conference. This funding request was shared with all Member States.

The UNISDR secretariat is grateful for the in-kind support of the host governments of the regional ministerial conferences, platforms and consultations, namely Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Italy, Kazakhstan, Nigeria, and Spain, and others who made it possible.

The secretariat is also grateful for the financial support already received or pledged and in particular to Switzerland and Japan for hosting the PrepCom and the World Conference. Thus far, we have about half the funds needed. I therefore take this opportunity today to appeal to all stakeholders to contribute, within your means, to the trust fund for disaster risk reduction to ensure that the necessary resources are in place to deliver a successful World Conference in March 2015.

Together with the host-country, Japan, we are preparing to welcome you all to Sendai for fruitful discussions, and to jointly consider and adopt a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. One that will shape a disaster-resilient world for all of us and the coming generations.

Thank you.