

**BUREAU OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE THIRD WORLD
CONFERENCE ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

**Minutes of the sixth Bureau meeting
for consideration by the Bureau**

**4 July 2014 (9h00-13h00)
Geneva, CCV Room B**

1. The sixth meeting of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was held on 4 July 2014 in Geneva.

2. The meeting was attended by:

Bureau members:

- H.E. Mr. Md. Abdul Hannan (Bangladesh)
- H.E. Ms. Kateřina Sequensová (Czech Republic)
- H.E. Dr. Walid M. Abdelnasser (Egypt)
- H.E. Ms. Päivi Kairamo (Finland)
- H.E. Mr. Wayne McCook (Jamaica)
- H.E. Mr. Takashi Okada (Japan)
- H.E. Mr. Toni Frisch (Switzerland)
- H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand)

Others in attendance:

- Mr. Md. Alimuzzaman (Bangladesh)
- Ms. Jitka Brodska (Czech Republic)
- Ms. Cecilia Menoscal, Director of International Cooperation, National Risk Management Secretariat of Ecuador
- Ms. Monica Martinez (Ecuador)
- Mr. Mohamed Nasr (Egypt)
- Mr. Antti Rytövuori (Finland)
- Ms. Tyesha Turner (Jamaica)
- Mr. Kotaro Suzuki (Japan)
- Mr. Shinobu Yamaguchi (Japan)
- Mr. Dmitry Stegnyy (Russian Federation)
- Mr. Martin Samuel David (South Sudan)
- Mr. Philipp Beutler (Switzerland)
- Mr. Natapanu Nopakun (Thailand)
- Mr. Pakawat Srisukwattana (Thailand)

Secretariat in attendance:

- Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Mr. Neil McFarlane, Chief, Regional Programmes and DRR Coordination (UNISDR)
- Ms. Dizery Salim, Programme Officer (UNISDR)

AGREED ACTIONS

1. The secretariat to produce a list of suggested dates and times for Bureau meetings up to the World Conference.
2. The Bureau to plan a possible scenario for preparation of and consultation on the draft post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction for consideration by Member States.

DISCUSSIONS

Agenda item 1: Opening and Adoption of Agenda

1. The meeting was opened by co-Chair-designate H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand) and the agenda was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of minutes of previous Bureau meeting.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

Agenda item 3. Organizational matters

3. The Bureau cancelled its meeting on 7 July 2014 and confirmed the next Bureau meetings as follows:
 - 14 July 2014, 18:00-18:45
 - 16 July 2014, 9:00-13:00
4. The chair reviewed the dates of upcoming regional and other groups meetings as follows:
 - 4 July 2014: Western Europe and Others Group
 - 7 July 2014: Asia Regional Group
 - 8 July 2014: Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC)
 - 10 July 2014: Eastern European Group
 - 11 July 2014: “Group of 77” developing countries and China
 - 11 July 2014 (TBC): Africa Regional Group
5. The chair informed the Bureau of an invitation to a meeting with the Global Network of Civil Society for Disaster Risk Reduction on 13 July 2014, 16:30-17:30 at the Permanent Mission of Finland. Bureau members would be welcome to join.
6. The Bureau co-Chairs will give a media briefing about the World Conference and its preparatory process to members of the Geneva correspondents association on 7 July 2014 at 11:45.
7. Mr. Andrey Nikiforov (Russian Federation) was put forward as candidate for Rapporteur for consideration by the Preparatory Committee.
8. The Bureau expressed general agreement for an idea to place approved draft minutes on a password-protected website accessible to States Members.

Agenda item 4: Update on 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

9. The Bureau received a briefing from co-Chair H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand) on the sixth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, which took place from 22 to 26 June 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting was attended by governments, civil society representatives and other stakeholders with close to 4,000 participants. “Promoting investments for resilient nations and communities” was a central theme with a special focus on three areas: resilience at local levels; improving public investments for disaster and climate risk management to protect and sustain development gains; and public and private partnership for disaster risk reduction. The Conference outcome will be transmitted to the Preparatory Committee in document A/CONF.224/PC(I)/11. The outcome benefited from input from multistakeholder

consultations since March 2012 (contained in the document “Asia-Pacific Input Document for the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (HFA2): Risk sensitive development as the cornerstone of resilience and sustainability,” available on the Regional Platform website: <http://6thamcdrr-thailand.net/6thamcdrr/Outcome-Documents>).

10. The chair invited Ms. Margareta Wahlström, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, who also attended the meeting, to make additional comments. She explained that the stakeholder groups in the region had held structured consultations on the post-2015 framework in the lead-up to the sixth Asia Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and had come forward inputs to the Conference’s outcome document as well as voluntary commitments towards the implementation of the future framework.
11. The chair noted that a European Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction would take place in Milan, Italy, on 8 July. Ms. Wahlström noted that the meeting of the Arab States regional platform had been postponed to 14-16 September, and her understanding was that inputs from stakeholders in preparation of the meeting would be relayed to the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee by States Members from the region. H.E. Mr. Walid Abdelnasser (Egypt) said a meeting of permanent representatives from Arab States would soon take place where this matter would be discussed.

Agenda item 5: Timeline for preparing the draft framework

12. Recalling agenda item 6 of the first Preparatory Committee meeting, “considerations on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction,” the Bureau reviewed possible scenarios for preparing the draft framework based on views expressed under this agenda item. The Bureau discussed ways to involve regional groups during the period spanning September and October before the Preparatory Committee convenes its second meeting on 17-18 November 2014. The Bureau discussed the possibility of holding informal consultations during this interim period, pending approval from the Preparatory Committee, and, should informal discussions be held, the Bureau discussed possible modalities for their facilitation (in particular, facilitation by the Bureau co-Chairs), how many facilitator-led sessions there would be, when the sessions would be held, how they would be convened and conducted, how one session would lead to the next, and how views emerging from the sessions would be conveyed to the second meeting of the Preparatory Committee meeting in November 2014.
13. During the course of the Bureau’s discussion, the secretariat clarified the following issues:
 - Discussions on the post-2015 framework are considered informal up to the time of the World Conference.
 - Documents emerging from informal discussions are not draft texts but “consultation drafts” (documents to aid consultations).
 - In line with organizational practice, the working language for informal discussions would be English.
14. The Bureau said it would discuss the following points with their respective regional groups:
 - Should informal discussions on the post-2015 framework take place, they would be facilitated by the co-Chairs on the basis of a first consultation draft to be developed immediately after the first Preparatory Committee meeting in late July/early August.

The first consultation draft would be shared with the Bureau for two rounds of comments, following which the drafts would be submitted for translation into the six official languages.

- An advanced version of the first consultation draft in the working language, English, could be used as the basis to begin informal consultations, also in English.
- Views emerging from informal consultations would be taken into account by the co-Chairs in a revised consultation draft. The Bureau would be used as a sounding board to help the co-facilitators throughout this period.
- During the period of informal consultations, consultations would be scheduled with Member States, representatives of major groups and the United Nations system, and interspersed, whenever useful, with consultations involving mixed groups.

Agenda item 6: Update on preparations for the first Preparatory Committee meeting

15. The secretariat updated on preparations for the first Preparatory Committee meeting. To date, 78 countries had sent Note Verbales announcing their delegations. Some 13 intergovernmental organizations, 37 United Nations organizations and 68 organizations from among the major groups had also registered, bringing the total number of participants to between 500 to 600. A lot more countries are expected to announce their delegations in coming days. The secretariat has held teleconferences with the Organizing Partners of major groups, who are coming well prepared.
16. The secretariat informed the Bureau of two new documents being submitted for consideration by the Preparatory Committee: (a) a note informing the Committee that one intergovernmental organization is seeking observer status with the Preparatory Committee; and (b) document which outlines the World Conference agenda, for approval by the Committee.
17. The Bureau requested the secretariat to ensure that written statements are included in the record in addition to statements delivered at the plenary. The secretariat said it would examine ways to upload all statements online.
18. In view of the active role of persons with disabilities with respect to disaster risk reduction, the Bureau discussed the possibility of providing – and requested the secretariat to provide – a speaking slot for the Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility during a session of the Chairs’ dialogue with major groups.
19. H.E. Mr. Wayne McCook (Jamaica) informed the Bureau that the group of countries from small island developing States and the Permanent Mission of New Zealand would hold a meeting in Geneva on the interface between disaster risk reduction and issues surrounding small island developing States. H.E. Mr. McCook intended to participate in his capacity as a Bureau member-designate endorsed by the Latin American and Caribbean region.

Agenda item 7: Update on organization of work for the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

20. H.E. Mr. Takashi Okada (Japan) gave an update on the World Conference. The opening segment would take place on 14 March 2015 followed by a high-level forum to address emerging risks in the post-2015 global agenda, expected to take place at the level of Heads of State. A plenary session would follow, with ministerial roundtables taking place at the same time. Plans are currently in place for five ministerial roundtables. Plans

are also in place for 15 working sessions clustered around four topics: progress on existing HFA Priorities, emerging risks, commitments to implementation and accelerating implementation. The Bureau discussed a number of topics that the World Conference may want to consider – such as gender and disaster risk reduction; global partnership, international cooperation and shared responsibility; inclusion of livestock in agricultural discussions. A provisional list of the topics would go online with the understanding that they can be revisited following reflection on the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee. The secretariat also explained the possibility of organizing official side events on those additional themes, if appropriate.

21. H.E. Mr. Okada informed the Bureau that a briefing to embassies in Tokyo is planned for 18 July 2014. Information relayed at that briefing would be provided also to the permanent missions in Geneva, including details on the study tour and arrangements for accommodation.

The next meeting of the Bureau will be held on Monday, 14 July 2014, to be chaired by H.E. Ms. Päivi Kairamo (Finland).

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Annex 1

**Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the 3rd United Nations World Conference on
Disaster Risk Reduction**

Sixth meeting

Friday 4 July 2014
09h00-13h00

Venue: Centre de Conférences de Varembe (CCV), Room B
9-11 rue de Varembe
CH-1211 Genève 20

Draft Agenda

1. Opening.
2. Adoption of minutes of previous Bureau meeting.
3. Organizational matters.
4. Update on 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.
5. Timeline for preparing the draft framework
6. Update on preparations for the first Preparatory Committee meeting.
7. Update on organisation of work for the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.
8. Any other business.

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Annex 2

Documents per agenda item

Item 2. Adoption of minutes of previous Bureau meeting.

- Minutes – 5th Bureau meeting

Item 3. Update on 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

- Outcome of Sixth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 22 to 26 June 2014, Bangkok, Thailand (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/11)

Item 5. Timeline for preparing the draft framework

- Proposed format for preparation of and consultation on the draft post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (Rev 2.C) – subject to further revisions

Item 6. Update on preparations for the first Preparatory Committee meeting.

- Agenda of the first session of the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/1)
- Programme of work for the first session of the Preparatory Committee (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/2 and Corr.1)
- Participation of Intergovernmental organizations in the work of the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/15)
- Draft provisional agenda for Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/L.3)
- Concept Note – Technical Workshop 1
- Concept Note – Technical Workshop 2
- Concept Note – Technical Workshop 3
- Concept Note – Chairs' Dialogue

Item 7. Update on organisation of work for the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

- List of proposed themes substantive discussions (draft July 2014 – subject to further revisions)

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