

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

**Draft minutes of the eighth Bureau meeting
for consideration by the Bureau**

**16 July 2014 (10h00-13h00)
Geneva, CCV, Room B**

1. The eighth meeting of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was held on 16 July 2014 in Geneva.

2. The meeting was attended by:
Bureau members:
 - H.E. Ms. María del Pilar Cornejo, Minister for the National Secretariat of Risk Management (Ecuador)
 - 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)
 - Mr. Andrey Nikiforov (Russian Federation)

- Others in attendance:*
 - Mr. Kenichi Suganuma Ambassador in charge of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Japan)
 - Mr. Md. Alimuzzaman (Bangladesh)
 - Ms. Jitka Brodska (Czech Republic)
 - Ms. Monica Martinez (Ecuador)
 - Ms. Cecilia Menoscal, Director of International Cooperation, National Risk Management Secretariat (Ecuador)
 - Ms. Alina Sanchez, Advisor to the Minister, National Secretariat of Risk Management (Ecuador)
 - Mr. Mohamed Nasr (Egypt)
 - Mr. Antti Rytövuori (Finland)
 - Mr. Ville Lahelma (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)
 - Mr. Marco Toscano-Rivalta, Chief, Office of the Special Representative (UNISDR)
 - Ms. Dizery Salim, Programme Officer (UNISDR)

AGREED ACTIONS

1. The secretariat was requested to announce the agreed dates of open-ended informal consultative meetings via note verbale to Member States.

DISCUSSIONS

Agenda item 1: Opening and Adoption of Agenda

1. The meeting was opened by co-Chair H.E Ms. Päivi Kairamo (Finland) and the agenda was adopted.

Agenda item 2: Adoption of minutes of previous Bureau meeting

2. The minutes of the sixth Bureau meeting were adopted with the following corrections:
 - a. Ms. Monica Martinez (Ecuador) and Mr. Md. Alimuzzaman (Bangladesh) to be added to the list of attendees.
 - b. “Permanent missions in Tokyo” to be corrected to “embassies in Tokyo.”
 - c. The date of embassy briefings in Tokyo to be corrected from 18 July 2013 to 18 July 2014.
 - d. The year 2014 to be added to the date of the next Bureau meeting.

Agenda item 3. Organizational matters

3. The chair announced the departure of sherpa Mr. Antti Rytövuori (Finland), to be replaced by Mr. Ville Lahelma up to 4 August 2014 and Mr. Renne Klinge from 4 August 2014 onwards. H.E. Mr. Toni Frisch (Switzerland) announced the departure of sherpa Mr. Philipp Beutler (Switzerland) to be replaced by Mr. Oliver Hoehne.
4. As discussed by the Bureau at its sixth meeting (4 July 2014), the chair clarified that between 23 July and 8 August 2014, the period during which the co-Chairs will finalize their co-Chairs’ pre-zero draft, contact with the Bureau members will be via email.

Agenda item 4. Reflections on the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee

5. The Bureau commended the co-Chairs for guiding the first Preparatory Committee meeting from 14 to 15 July 2014 towards its successful conclusion. The Bureau noted that Member States focused on the considerations on the post-2015 framework, which would aid the work of the co-Chairs in producing a pre-zero draft as a basis for future open-ended informal consultative meetings, as agreed by the Preparatory Committee. The Bureau also praised the quality of advisory support provided by secretariat staff on matters of procedure, including United Nations staff from the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Management and the Office of Legal Affairs in New York.
6. Reflecting on the meeting, the Bureau noted:
 - a. The importance of safeguarding the inclusive and transparent nature of the drafting process going forward, both in terms of the political declaration and the future framework for disaster risk reduction;

- b. The importance paying special attention to topics that may require additional discussion to reach a common understanding; and
 - c. The importance of ascertaining Member States' final approval of the draft before it is transmitted to the World Conference.
7. The co-Chairs reported that during the Chairs' Dialogue with major groups, the stress on local action was a common message. Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/211 which recognized the important contributions of all relevant stakeholders, including major groups, to the World Conference and its preparatory process, they reiterated the intergovernmental nature of the process while adding that there would also be appropriate consultations with major groups.
 8. Bureau members highlighted the views expressed by the Preparatory Committee on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction that would need to be considered by the co-Chairs in developing the pre-zero draft. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, Ms. Margareta Wahlström, added that stakeholders have expressed, through consultations, the challenges in implementing disaster risk reduction, which the co-Chairs may also wish to consider in the pre-zero draft.

Agenda item 5. Way forward.

9. On 15 July 2014, the co-Chairs presented to the first session of the Preparatory Committee the timeline for consultations on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. In that document (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/INF.4), informal consultative meetings were indicated in September and October. The co-Chairs presented a list of dates on which open-ended informal consultative meetings would be held and requested the secretariat to send a note verbale announcing those dates to all permanent missions, as follows:
 - Friday, 5 September
 - Tuesday, 9 September
 - Thursday, 18 September
 - Thursday, 2 October
 - Thursday, 9 October
 - Friday, 10 October
 - Monday, 13 October
10. The co-Chairs requested the secretariat to send a second note verbale on 8 August 2014 along with the pre-zero draft, describing the modalities and details of the open-ended informal consultative meetings. The pre-zero draft is also to be posted on the World Conference website in English, on 8 August 2014, which should be referred to in the note verbale.
11. The co-Chairs further recalled that a zero draft would be produced in mid-October in line with the organizational practice of United Nations meetings and conferences for timely submission of drafts. In that connection, co-Chair H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand) observed that, if appropriate, open-ended informal consultative meetings may still continue after the zero-draft is produced, so as to further prepare for the second meeting of the Preparatory Committee from 17 to 18 November 2014. Those consultations would not affect the text of the zero draft.
13. H.E. Mr. Kenichi Suganuma, Ambassador in charge of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Japan), said draft elements of the political declaration would be produced in October 2014, before the second Preparatory Committee meeting of 17-18

November 2014. The Host Country would also outline the process for agreement on the political declaration in October.

The next meeting of the Bureau will be held on Wednesday, 23 July 2014, to be chaired by H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand).

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Annex 1

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

Eighth meeting

**Wednesday 16 July 2014
10h00-13h00**

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. Reflections on the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee.
5. Way forward.
6. Any other business.

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Annex 2

Documents per agenda item

Item 2. Adoption of minutes of previous Bureau meeting.

Minutes – 6th Bureau meeting

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