

Concept note

Chair's Dialogue with Major Groups

Co-Chairs:

H.E. Ambassador Päivi Kairamo, Permanent Representative of Finland to UN, Geneva

H.E. Ambassador Thani Thongphakdi, Permanent Representative of Thailand to UN, Geneva

Session B:

Date, time: Tuesday, 18 November 2014. 13h15-14h45

Venue: Geneva, Palais des Nations, building E, room XIX

1. Background

One of the great strengths of the Hyogo Framework for Action has been its whole-of-society approach. The increasing engagement of a variety of stakeholders in policy formulation has been a hallmark of the Global, Regional and, in many cases, National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction. So has the establishment of robust, often self-organizing, networks including parliamentarians, local governments, community practitioners, civil society, private sector and science and technology. Many groups have coalesced around the needs and abilities of women, youth, persons living with disabilities, indigenous people and organized communities groups. Specialized groups have also emerged around sectoral issues such as environment, health, education or around selected hazards (volcanic eruption, earthquake, flood etc.).

The UN General Assembly has emphasized stakeholders' engagement in the preparation of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and, recognizing the importance of their contributions has called for an inclusive process in formulating the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. In particular, the UN General Assembly "invites voluntary commitments by all stakeholders and their networks to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action as well as support the development of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction".

2. Session objectives

The aim of the two Chair's Dialogues with Major Groups is to solicit views from the nine Major Groups and other stakeholders on how the post-2015-framework for disaster risk reduction can be used by Major Group partners to support work in building resilience to disasters and how to effectively engage Major Groups in implementation of the framework. The Chair will guide the discussions at each session through a series of questions inviting stakeholders to speak on:

Session B:

- Role of Major Groups in building coherence and mutual reinforcement between DRR, SDGs and climate agreements
- Potential Major Groups commitments to support the implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction to be delivered at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Sendai, March 2015.

3. Expected outcomes

The Chair's dialogues sessions will provide exchange of views among governments and Major Groups on their role and contribution to a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. A summary of the Dialogues will be produced and presented by the Chair in the final plenary session as part of the second Preparatory Committee outcomes feeding into the draft of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

4. Proposed agenda, structure and speakers

- 13h15 The Chair opens the session, establishes the context and describes the objectives and key questions
- 13h20 Question One:
- Session B: What role can Major Groups play in building coherence and mutual reinforcement between DRR, SDGs and climate agreements?
- The Chair invites interested speakers to raise their flags and moderates the order of speakers with consideration of regional, gender and stakeholder balance.
- 14h00 Question Two:
- Session B: What potential Major Group commitments to support the implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction could be delivered at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Sendai, March 2015.
- The Chair invites interested speakers to raise their flags and moderates the order of speakers with consideration of regional, gender and stakeholder balance.
- 14h40 Closing remarks from the Chair.
- 14h45 End of Chair's Dialogue.

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