

Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction Working Session 2: Risk Identification and Assessment

Speakers

Chair:

Ms. Florika Fink-Hooijer, Director for Strategy, Policy and International Cooperation at the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection.



Inside the European Commission, her career focussed on foreign external policy and security matters and in particular on crisis management, conflict prevention and disaster risk management. She further has in depth experience in comprehensive external policy coordination and in justice and home affairs. Dr. Fink-Hooijer was a member of cabinet of the former Commissioners M. Wulf-Mathies (regional policy) and F. Bolkestein (internal market & taxation) and Head of Cabinet of Commissioner K. Georgieva (humanitarian aid, international cooperation and crisis response).

Moderator:

Mr. Francis Ghesquiere, Head of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) at The World Bank



Francis Ghesquiere is Manager for the World Bank's Disaster Risk Management Practice Group and Head of GFDRR Secretariat. Prior, he was Program Manager for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) in the South Asia Region (SAR) where he supported the SAR DRM team on a fast growing portfolio. There he helped the team prepare several new initiatives, including a Strategic Seismic Risk Mitigation Program for Bangladesh and a Flood Recovery Program in the State of Bihar. Before his assignment in South Asia, Francis was a Regional Coordinator in the Latin America and Caribbean

Region, where he led a number of flagship initiatives, including the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) and the Central America Catastrophe Probabilistic Risk Assessment initiative (CAPRA). He was also the Lead Manager for the Understanding Risk Forum (UR), which brings together experts and practitioners to explore innovation in disaster risk assessment. He is a key member of the DRM Global Expert Team where he covers Disaster Risk Reduction, Risk Modeling, and Risk Financing.

Panelists:

HON. LIANNE DALZIEL, MAYOR OF CHRISTCHURCH,



Hon Lianne Dalziel (LLB) was elected as the Mayor of Christchurch in October 2013, after serving for 23 years in the New Zealand Parliament, the last four terms as the Member of Parliament for Christchurch East. Lianne served as a Cabinet Minister in the 5th Labour Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Rt. Hon Helen Clark (1999-2008). During that time Lianne held a number of portfolios, including Immigration, Commerce, Food Safety, Women's Affairs & Senior Citizens and associate roles in Education and Justice. After the change in government in 2008, she was elected to chair the Commerce Select Committee, which had oversight of the regulation of the non-banking finance sector.

The Christchurch East electorate was severely affected by the 2010/11 Canterbury Earthquake Sequence and Lianne played an important role in ensuring that her constituents had access to accurate information, as well as ensuring that their concerns were communicated to decision-makers. Lianne was invited to join the UNISDR's Parliamentary Advisory Group on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2012. With this background, Lianne has become a champion of resilience, with Christchurch selected as one of the first tranche of cities to participate in the 100 Resilient City Network pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Mr. Muwembe Khalid, Principal Meteorologist, Uganda Meteorology Department under Ministry of Water, Lands, and Environment, Uganda



Khalid Y. Muwembe, is currently a Principal Meteorologist with the Uganda National Meteorological Authority (UNMA) where he is a head of Operational Weather Forecasting. He has raised through the ranks of Operational Forecasting with the Uganda Meteorological Services that he joined in 2003. Mr. Muwembe is a Ugandan and holder of MSc in Applied Meteorology from the University of Reading in United Kingdom. He has attained several professional training courses mainly in the line of weather modeling and weather model verification. Mr. Muwembe was previously a Ugandan focal point for the WMO Severe Weather Forecast Demonstration Project and coordinator for the mobile weather alert project that was designed to utilize mobile phone technology to develop a sustainable weather warning service that reduces the vulnerability of fishing communities on the Lake Victoria to weather hazards.

Mr. Louis Gritz, VP of research at FM Global, USA



Louis Gritz is vice president and manager of research for FM Global, one of the world's largest commercial property insurers. He oversees FM Global's team of scientists, with expertise in fire, explosions, natural hazards (windstorms, flood and earthquakes) and risk and reliability, who seek to understand property hazards and identify solutions to prevent loss at client facilities. Gritz also oversees activities at FM Global's US\$125-million, 1,600-acre Research Campus in West Glocester, RI, USA, the world's largest center for property loss prevention research. Prior to joining FM Global in 2006, Gritz was manager of fire science and technology at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, NM, USA and was a member of its Advanced Concepts Group think tank.

He currently serves on the Governing Board of the Global Earthquake Model, on the Board of Directors of the Industrial Research Institute, and on Advisory Committees for several universities. He has served as chair of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Heat Transfer

Division Executive Committee and on the Research Advisory Committee for the National Fire Protection Association. In 2013, he received the 75th Anniversary medal from the ASME Heat Transfer Division. Gritzo has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering, with a minor in applied mathematics, from Texas Tech University, USA.

Mr. Hisaya SAWANO, Chief Researcher of International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICHARM), PWRI, Japan



Hisaya Sawano has been working for river and dam planning and designing, flood forecasting and risk management, improvement of river environment, finance management for the project and policy development for water resources management as a national / prefectural government officer of Japan. He also worked at WMO for flood management program (APFM) and served as an expert of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to support countries in promoting IWRM. Currently he is a chief researcher of ICHARM in charge of risk assessment and management.

Mr. Juma Al'Maskari, Director General of Meteorology, Public Authority for Civil Aviation, Oman



Al-Maskari Juma, holding a bachelor degree in Meteorology in 1992, and a Master degree in Remote Sensing in 1998, worked as a Forecaster from 1992 and then the Head of Forecasting from 1996 to 2002, at the Department of Meteorology in the Sultanate of Oman. At that time the forecasting tools and methods used for early warning in Oman were limited. Al-Maskari and his team focused in capacity building (Hardware, Software and Training and Education) of the Meteorology Department. In 2002, AL-Maskari went back to the UK to do his PhD, Where he graduated with a PhD from the University of Leeds in 2006; he used high resolution numerical models to look at flow over

Mountains of Oman and the cause for the initiation of summer convection which was the main cause for Flash Flooding in Oman.

In 2007 and 2010 Oman experienced two major tropical cyclones that caused heavy damage to the infrastructure of the country, with loss of lives and property. In 2007 Al-Maskari was appointed as the Assistant Director General of Meteorology in Oman and therefore he was heavily involved in issuing warning to the Government and Public and coordinating with Emergency Response and Media in matters related to the warnings and evacuation.

In 2010, Al-Maskari was given the task as the coordinator for the Early Warning Sector for the whole of Oman (as part of the National Committee for Disaster Management for Oman, with 8 Main Sectors). He is also in charge of the National Multi Hazard Early Warning System (NMHEWS). This project was assigned to the Directorate General of Meteorology by directives from His Majesty the Sultan of Oman. Phase one of this project, will be inaugurated in 23 March 2015 and it includes (Tsunami's, Tropical Cyclones and Flash Floods).

In August 2014, Al-Maskari was appointed as the Director General of Meteorology at the Public Authority for Civil Aviation.