



PERMANENT MISSION OF FINLAND
GENEVA



Permanent Mission of Thailand

8 August 2014

Excellencies,

As mandated by the Preparatory Committee for the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction at its first session from 14 to 15 July 2014 in Geneva, it is our honour to present the pre-zero draft of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. This document will serve as the basis for the open-ended informal consultative meetings to be carried out by the co-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee in September and October 2014, also as mandated by the Preparatory Committee's first session.

Beginning on 5 September 2014, open-ended informal consultative meetings on the pre-zero draft are planned in Geneva with Member States, where representatives of United Nations funds, agencies and programmes will attend as observers and resource persons. In addition, the co-Chairs will hold a number of consultations with major groups, also in Geneva, where Member States are encouraged to attend and take active part. The schedule of meetings is attached, providing details on timing, venue and focus areas for each meeting. Based on such consultative meetings in September and October 2014, the Co-Chairs will prepare a zero draft by mid-October for consideration by the Preparatory Committee at its second session, scheduled for 17 to 18 November 2014 in Geneva.

During the Preparatory Committee's considerations on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, States responded with focused determination to the General Assembly's call in resolution 68/211 (20 December 2013) for a concise, focused, forward-looking and action-oriented outcome document at the World Conference. A common thread in the Committee's discussion was the call for a stand-alone framework that would build on, draw from and update the *Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters* in order to ensure continuity in work that is still ongoing, while paving the way for much-needed innovation to address the challenges at hand.

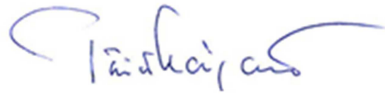
At the same time, States highlighted various lessons from ten years of implementing the Hyogo Framework. They gave examples of how the Hyogo Framework has provided critical guidance to reduce disaster risk and strengthen cooperation across stakeholders at local, national regional and global levels. Nevertheless, States gave due recognition to gaps in the formulation of the Framework's goals and priorities for actions, in particular priority 4. Priorities 1, 2, 3 and 5, overlapping in some parts, were more directly actionable and specific than priority 4. This has brought to the fore the need, through a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, to update and reorder the strategic goals and priorities, and give visibility to all levels of actors. In addition, the future framework is a chance

to place due emphasis on stakeholders and their role in advancing the priorities for action, which many said were not fully expressed in the Hyogo Framework.

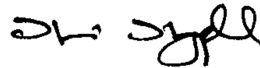
Finally, in addition to statements delivered at the first session of the Preparatory Committee, the pre-zero draft drew on sources such as: the International Framework of Action for the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR) of 1989; the “Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World” of 1994; the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction of 1999; the Hyogo Framework itself; the Hyogo Framework for Action Mid-Term Review; relevant General Assembly resolutions; the deliberations of the fourth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of 2013; the Compilation report on consultations on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/5); the suggested elements for the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/6); the outcomes of the 2014 regional platforms for disaster reduction of Africa, Americas, Asia, Pacific, and the European ministerial meeting on disaster risk reduction (A/CONF.224/PC(I)/7, 8, 9, 11, 12); the proposal of the Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals; and the 2009 UNISDR Terminology on Disaster Risk Reduction.

We look forward to an active and highly participatory series of open-ended informal consultative meetings.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Ms. Päivi Kairamo
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Finland to the United
Nations Office and other international
organizations in Geneva



Mr. Thani Thongphakdi
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United
Nations Office and other international
organizations in Geneva

Annex: Schedule of open-ended
informal consultative meetings

All permanent representatives and permanent observers
to the United Nations Office at Geneva

cc: All permanent representatives and permanent observers
to the United Nations, New York