

[Closing Remarks by co-Chair Ambassador Thongphakdi]

Thank you very much, co-Chair Kairamo.

Let me echo Ambassador Kairamo's thoughts in saying how honoured I am to be a co-Chair in this process.

Part of our task as co-Chairs is to listen to the views expressed by States and bring those together with what other stakeholders point out as missing or require highlighting.

This was among the reasons why the co-Chairs held three dialogues with major groups in the past two days.

As Member States work to develop a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, we need to think of how best to formulate our views so that all actors can use the same framework to align their actions.

We must think of ways to bring about a system of monitoring and accountability through practical formulas that are

easy to understand and result in outcomes against which it is easy to track progress. To that end, we must consider how targets and indicators should be formulated so that they are simple to use.

We also need to recognize the actors that want to play an increasing role in reducing disaster risk, such as youth, women, the ageing population and persons with disabilities. These actors showed up in large numbers at the regional platforms to demonstrate their strength as thinkers and do-ers. They were passionate about not having gaps in the post-2015 framework where their groups were concerned.

We also heard, loud and clear, a reaffirmation of the importance of regional and sub-regional platforms as places where issues can be raised and brought to the attention of the international community. Here, intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations can play a role in helping communities translate international commitments into local action.

Let me end with a final note: we must not forget that the post-2015 framework needs to be relevant to everyday concerns, such as access to food, water, a place to live, education and good health. For this reason, it is important to ensure coherence with other international frameworks and agendas.

Again, on behalf of my co-Chair, we look forward to continuing our work together with you.

Thank you.

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