

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

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

**8 January 2015, (10h30-12h00)
CICG, Room 18**

1. The seventeenth meeting of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was held on 8 January 2014 in Geneva.

2. The meeting was attended by:

Bureau members:

- H.E. Ms. Kateřina Sequensová (Czech Republic)
- H.E. Mr. Amr Ramadan (Egypt)
- H.E. Ms. Päivi Kairamo (Finland)
- H.E. Mr. Wayne McCook (Jamaica)
- H.E. Ms. Misako Kaji (Japan)
- H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand)
- H.E. Mr. Toni Frisch (Switzerland)

Others in attendance:

- Ms. Preeti Rahman (Bangladesh)
- Ms. Jitka Brodská (Czech Republic)
- Ms. Irina Moreno Gonzalez (Ecuador)
- Mr. Mohamed Nasr (Egypt)
- Mr. Renne Klinge (Finland)
- Mr. Kotaro Suzuki (Japan)
- Mr. Shinobu Yamaguchi (Japan)
- Mr. Natalia Zolotova (Russian Federation)
- 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. Co-Chairs to speak to regional groups on the need to identify chairs for ministerial roundtables at the World Conference.

DISCUSSION

Agenda item 1. Opening and adoption of minutes of previous Bureau meetings.

1. The meeting was opened by co-Chair H.E. Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand) and the agenda was adopted.
2. The Bureau adopted the draft minutes of the sixteenth meeting.

Agenda item 2. January open-ended negotiation meeting: streamlined text and timetable of work.

3. The Bureau reviewed the indicative timetable of work for the open-ended negotiation meeting from 12 to 16 January 2015. The aim is to achieve Ad Ref agreement on all parts of the text by Friday 16 January 2015.
4. The chair noted that draft 1 of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction was circulated on 16 December 2014, as produced by States during the open-ended negotiation meeting from 8 to 9 December 2014. Two paragraphs in draft 1 had been agreed Ad Ref.
5. At the request of States, the co-Chairs produced “streamlined text” of draft 1, which was circulated on 7 January 2015. A discussion on the title of the text will be left to the end of the drafting process.
6. Regarding the bracketed text on targets, H.E. Mr. Wayne McCook (Jamaica) briefed the Bureau on the work of the informal working group on targets and indicators, which will hold its final meeting on 9 January 2015. The group will submit a consolidated report to the co-Chairs after its final meeting containing language proposals to share at the next open-ended negotiation meeting. The aim is to establish targets to help States measure progress, and to have targets which are realistic yet ambitious.
7. The chair affirmed that the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference provide for the establishment of a Main Committee, should it be needed.

Agenda item 3. Any other business.

8. H.E. Ms. Misako Kaji (Japan), facilitator for the political declaration, said a draft political declaration would be tabled at the 12 to 16 January 2015 negotiations. The aim is to agree by 16 January 2015 on what to present to Heads of State/Government to be adopted in Sendai. Failing that, a decision would have to be taken on the modality, schedule and venue for completing the political declaration. The Bureau noted that, bearing in mind the need to send the draft political declaration back to capital for approval, it would be useful to have a completed draft as early as possible.

9. The chair clarified that the third session of the Preparatory Committee would transmit both the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction and the political declaration to the Conference President.
10. The Bureau reviewed the status of nominations of Vice Presidents to the Bureau of the World Conference per regional group:
 - Western Europe and Others Group: Finland and Switzerland (informal agreement)
 - Eastern Europe Group: Czech Republic and Russian Federation (informal agreement)
 - Asia Pacific Group: Bangladesh, Iran and Thailand have expressed interest and the group has yet to decide on two candidates.
 - Africa Group: No report.
 - Latin American and Caribbean Group: No report.
11. The Bureau discussed the importance of nominating ministerial roundtable chairs as soon as possible. It was suggested that co-Chairs speak to regional groups on the matter.
12. The secretariat gave an update on World Conference sessions. There are 33 working sessions; five ministerial roundtables, and three high-level multi-stakeholder partnership dialogues. Concept notes on the sessions will be placed on the Conference website (<http://www.wcdr.org>). The outcome of the sessions will be reflected in the outcome of the Conference. The sessions have been designed to encourage participants to come with commitments and recommendations to implement the future framework and have been designed with a large number of organizing partners.
13. The secretariat asked for indications on high level participation in Sendai. Attendance would be welcome for both opening as well as closing.

The next meeting will take place on 30 January 2015.

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