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Subject: ISDR

Submission by the state of Palestine

on the Pre-Draft Zero of the of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction

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The permanent mission of Palestine in Geneva presents its respects to the Co-chairs of the Preparatory process of the post 2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, and in relation to the consultations process chaired by the co-chairs on the elements of the pre-draft zero, the mission would appreciate if the following elements would be taken into consideration in the draft zero framework to be negotiated in the second prep-com in November in Geneva,

1- In principle the impacts and consequences of occupation presents one of the main disasters people can face, in addition to that the policies, actions and activities of the occupying power towards the people of the occupied territories would lead to increasing their vulnerabilities not only on the social and economic domains but also in environmental one, which negatively affects their ability to achieve sustainable development, and effectively and efficiently manage their resources.

2- Palestinians in occupied territories are of the most vulnerable groups, as they are deprived from their rights, not only the political ones, but also the developmental ones, and as documented by several UN and other credible organizations reports, local communities in Palestinian occupied territories face increasing challenges due to Israel policies that leads to land degradation, increasing exposure to disasters not only natural disasters like droughts, sand storms and flash floods, but also man d\made disasters related to chemical spills, nuclear contamination, pollution, environmental degradation related to dumping of sewage and waste in occupied territories.

3- It is crucial that Palestinian communities in the territories under occupation be part of the decision making and taking process of the land use, urban planning , land development of their own territories.

4- Special consideration should be given to building capacities of the groups and communities living under occupation.