

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

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

**19 November 2014 (15h00-16h30)  
CICG Room 18**

1. The fifteenth meeting of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction was held on 19 November 2014 in Geneva.

2. The meeting was attended by:

*Bureau members:*

- H.E. Ms. María del Pilar Cornejo (Ecuador)
- H.E. Ms. Kateřina Sequensova (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)
- Mr. Andrey Nikiforov (Russian Federation)

*Others in attendance:*

- H.E. Mr. Kenichi Suganuma, Ambassador in charge of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Japan)
- Mr. Md. Alimuzzaman (Bangladesh)
- Ms. Jitka Brodska (Czech Republic)
- Ms. Alina Sanchez, Advisor to the Minister, National Secretariat of Risk Management (Ecuador)
- Ms. Irina Moreno (Ecuador)
- Mr. Mohamed Nasr (Egypt)
- Mr. Renne Klinge (Finland)
- Ms. Paula Uski (Finland)
- Ms. Tyesha Turner (Jamaica)
- Mr. Masami Tamura, Director, Global Issues Cooperation Division, International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Japan)
- Mr. Kotaro Suzuki (Japan)
- Ms. Gloria G. Lomodong (South Sudan)
- Mr. Martin Samuel David (South Sudan)
- Mr. Oliver Hoehne (Switzerland)
- 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 of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)
- Ms. Dizery Salim, Programme Officer (UNISDR)

## **AGREED ACTIONS**

1. Co-Chairs to send a letter on 21 November 2014 announcing dates for open-ended negotiation meetings on 8-10 December and 12-16 January as agreed by the Bureau.
2. Sherpas to hold a meeting the following week to consult on a modality to distill the text.
3. Co-Chairs to send a letter informing the Bureau of dates for future Bureau meetings, including a meeting on 12 March 2015, 15:00-17:00, in Sendai, Japan.

## **DISCUSSION**

1. The meeting was opened by co-Chair H.E Mr. Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand) and the agenda was adopted.

### **Agenda Item 1. Reflections on the second session of the Preparatory Committee and way forward.**

2. The co-Chairs thanked Bureau members for their support at the Preparatory Committee's second session. At the second session of the Preparatory Committee (Prep Com 2), negotiations had reached up to paragraph 23. The co-Chairs will circulate draft 1 of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction on Friday, 21 November 2014, with a covering note.
3. Countries will resume negotiations in December 2014 starting with paragraph 24, in the same modality used for paragraphs 1 to 23. As of 6 p.m. on 18 November 2014, around 30 States had submitted text proposals and comments in writing to the secretariat on paragraphs 1 to 23. The co-Chairs will continue to accept comments from States concerning paragraphs 24 to 40 up to 6 p.m. on Thursday, 20 November 2014. Those comments will be incorporated in a compilation document to be used as a reference by States at the upcoming open-ended negotiation meeting if they so wished.
4. As requested by the Preparatory Committee on 18 November 2014, the Bureau discussed dates for the December 2014 and January 2015 negotiation meetings, including whether three days for each meeting would be sufficient. The Bureau also noted that some States had asked for additional meetings in January 2015 beyond that which was proposed by the co-Chairs. The Bureau discussed the best dates for those meetings, bearing in mind the 20<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change happening also in December, and regional meetings (e.g. for the Africa and Europe region). Taking all those aspects into consideration, it was decided that the negotiations would take place over three days, from 8 to 10 December 2014. It was further decided that one meeting would be held in January over five days, from 12 to 16 January 2015.
5. The Bureau discussed the political declaration. H.E. Ms. Misako Kaji (Japan) said that in the margin of the open-ended negotiation meeting December, Japan would present a preliminary draft of the political declaration taking into consideration views expressed at Prep Com 2. At the January 2014 open-ended negotiation meeting, Japan offered to follow up on this presentation by organizing a session devoted to the political declaration. Japan would welcome written inputs on the elements as stated at the plenary, as well as written comments ahead of the December meeting.

### **2. Any other business.**

6. The Bureau discussed the holding of the third session of the Preparatory Committee on 13 March 2015 (Prep Com 3), whose purpose would be to endorse the draft for transmittal to the World Conference. Prep Com 3 would be preceded by a Bureau meeting on 12 March 2015, from

15:00-17:00. As such, the chair encouraged Bureau members to make plans to arrive in Sendai by the morning of 12 March 2015.

7. The Bureau reviewed the level of attendance expected at the World Conference, which, as decided by the General Assembly would be convened at the highest possible level and will include a high-level segment. Japan reported that the Prime Minister of Japan would send invitations to Heads of State/Government and positive reactions from some countries had already been expressed. The Secretariat is to plan the format and modalities together with Japan for an informal high-level dialogue with the Heads of State/Government attending the opening day of the Conference.

The next meeting will take place on 12 December 2014.

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