​**COLOMBIAN SUBMISSION IN RELATION WITH THE ZERO DRAFT OF THE POST 2015 FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

18 November 2014

The Colombian delegation would like to put forward the following textual comments with regard to the zero-draft of the Post 2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, currently under discussion:
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​On Paragraph 21:

We consider it important to indicate that the efforts of all actors in different action areas such as collection, analysis and dissemination of information, model development, and continuous monitoring, shall be done on the basis of existing resources and efforts, in order for risk management to be cost-efficient. That is why we propose the following language: “taking into account the existing actions and resources”

21. Policies and practices for disaster risk management should be based on an understanding of risk in all its dimensions of vulnerability, capacity and exposure of persons and assets and hazards characteristics, taking into account the existing actions and resources.

On Paragraph 22.a:

We suggest the inclusion of risk uncertainty as follows:

22. It is important to:

a) Establish baselines and periodically assess disaster risks, including risk uncertainty, vulnerability, exposure and hazard characteristics, at the relevant spatial scale, such as within a river basin and along coastlines;

On Paragraph 25.a:

​We suggest the deletion of the following language "law, regulation and public policy, including for development, poverty reduction, climate change adaptation and environmental management"

25. It is important to:

a) Promote the coherence of, and further develop as appropriate, national and local frameworks ~~of law, regulation and public policy, including for development, poverty reduction, climate change adaptation and environmental management~~, which through defining roles and responsibilities guide the public sector in: (i) addressing disaster risk in publically owned, managed or regulated services and infrastructure, and (ii) regulate and provide incentives for actions by persons, households, communities and businesses;

On Paragraph 28.b:

We suggest deleting the reference to “Principles of Universal Design”, since it is a particular initiative on which countries do not have a lot of information.

b) Strengthen public investments in critical facilities and physical infrastructures, particularly disaster prevention and reduction structural measures, schools, clinics, hospitals, water and power plants , communications and transport lifelines, disaster warning and management centres through proper design~~, including the Principles of Universal Design~~, building better from the start, retrofitting and re-building, taking into account economic, social, and environmental impact assessments.

On Paragraph 28.j:

We suggest deleting the mention of “debt ratings”, on the grounds that if disaster risk is included in the criteria to “qualify debt”, certain countries can perceive that as a negative factor against their interests.

j) Review existing financial and fiscal instruments in order to support risk-sensitive public and private investments, and promote the integration of disaster risk reduction considerations and measures in economic valuations, investment tracking, cost-benefit analyses, competitiveness strategies, investment decisions, ~~debt ratings~~, risk analysis and growth forecasts, budgeting and accounting, and the determination of incentives;

On Paragraph 28:

We suggest the inclusion of the topic of financial protection in a separate paragraph (in the same manner as it is done in letter b of the 29th Paragraph), as this is an essential aspect to ensure the risk transfer and to generate schemes that reduce the fiscal impact associated with disasters, preventing investment resources to be divested into emergency response. We therefore propose the following language for a possible Paragraph 28.l

l) Promote the development of tools and mechanisms for risk transfer and retention in the activities of public and private investment, in order to ensure financial protection schemes that reduce the fiscal impact of disasters.