**COMMENTS OF COLOMBIA AT THE**

**SIXTH OPEN-ENDED INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING – SECTION D (NATIONAL AND LOCAL CONTEXT)**

**9 OCTOBER 2014**

We wish to thank both co-chairs and the Secretariat for convening this consultative process.

With regard to the section D, part I, we have some concrete textual proposals that we will transmit to the Secretariat in due time. In the course of this consultation we wish to make only general remarks on things that we feel should be added in order to achieve a more comprehensive framework.

In paragraph 13, which introduces the priorities for action, we would like to add a highlight on the multisectoral responsibility of Disaster Risk Reduction. This goes in line with what we have previously expressed in previous consultations.

On the priority action “Investing in Social, Economic and Environmental resilience, we would like to see somehow included the topic of insurances and reinsurances.

We would also like to suggest the inclusion of financial protection to the priorities for action, so that countries advance in the development of tools and mechanisms of risk retention and transfer, related to public and private investments.

Based on the conceptual basis of a layered financial management of risk, which can ensure the reduction of the fiscal burden and avoid the diversion of development resources into emergency response, we suggest three actions related to this prospective priority:

1. Identify and understand the fiscal risk derived from disasters, based on a detailed assessment of risk exposure and the consolidation of a data base to improve decision making and to promote adequate mechanisms.
2. Financial management of disaster risk, through the establishment of concrete tools that allow for the control and reduction of fiscal impact from disasters.
3. Insuring the catastrophic risk of public assets with the aim of reducing the contingent obligation of the government in natural disasters.

We will be submitting our detailed comments to the Secretariat.

Thank you.

**Amendments proposed on text:**

**On paragraph 14**

b) Periodically assess **and monitor** disaster risks, namely persons and economic and fiscal assets’ exposure and vulnerability as well as hazards’ characteristics.

c) Promote free and open availability of and access to risk, disasters and loss information, and their dissemination, at all levels **through comprehensive information management systems**, taking into account the needs of different categories of users.

f) Strengthen networks among disaster experts, managers and planners across sectors and between regions, and create or strengthen procedures for using available expertise when agencies and other important actors develop local, **national and regional** risk reduction plans.

h) Promote and improve dialogue and cooperation among scientific communities, including social and economic sciences, and practitioners working on disaster risk management, **while enhancing research.**

i) Strengthen the technical and scientific capacity to develop and apply methodologies, studies and models to assess **and analyze** vulnerabilities to and the impact of geological, weather, water and climate-related hazards, including the improvement of regional monitoring capacities and assessments.

**On paragraph 15**

a) Adoption and implementation of specific national and local, **“multi-sector”** plans, with clear targets, indicators and timeframes, aimed at preventing the creation of risk, the reduction of existing risk, and the strengthening of economic resilience.

c) Promotion of public, **private**, and institutional debates and scrutiny, including by parliamentarians and other elected officials, on progress reports of local and national plans.

d) Develop specific mechanisms to engage the active participation and ownership of relevant stakeholders, including communities **and private sector**, in disaster risk management, in particular building on the recognition that persons, communities and countries need to protect their assets and development gains, as well as leveraging the spirit of volunteerism.