

**Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
14-18 March 2015, Sendai, Japan**

**High Level Multi-stakeholders Partnership Dialogue “Risk-sensitive Investments:
Public-Private Partnerships” – SUMMARY REPORT FOR PLENARY MEETING ON
18 MARCH**

Session: High Level Multi-stakeholders Partnership Dialogue “Risk sensitive Investments: Public-Private Partnerships”
Chair: Mr Fuat Oktay, President of the Prime Ministry Emergency and Disaster Management Presidency, Turkey
Time and Date: 16 March 2015, 15:00-18:00

President of the Conference,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

The High Level Multi-stakeholder partnership dialogue titled ‘Risk sensitive Investments: Public-Private Partnerships’ took place on 16 March 2015 from 15:00 to 18:00.

I was pleased to chair this important high level dialogue. I believe that, within disaster risk reduction, we should be able to build a constructive cooperation with the private sector.

Discussions pointed to need for close cooperation and building of trust between the private sector and government bodies throughout development planning and disaster management cycles at national and local levels. Successful disaster risk reduction relies on new partnerships between business and governments to become a driving force for sustainable development. The solutions exist and they are not as costly as the losses incurred by recurring disasters.

A range of good practice examples were discussed in which close collaboration between the private and public sectors has contributed to a better understanding of disaster risk, open data and information sharing, and more effective implementation of regulation and voluntary standards. Despite these good examples, however, there is still hesitation by some governments to embrace close cooperation with the private sector, questioning its motives.

Participants agreed that trust was a prerequisite for effective public private partnerships and could only be gained by bringing different actors together early on in the process of investment and development planning, particularly at the local level. Private sector participants made concrete pleas to governments to

bring the private sector into the process from the very start so that they could contribute to building a “positive cycle of reinforcement for resilience”.

Participants finally noted the need to develop resilient solutions across industries in support of social and economic development that is inclusive and engages various stakeholders like women and persons with disability. For this, specific groups need to be offered specific solutions that are developed with them, not for them: *“Bridging the gap between public and private also means bridging the gap between institutions and the people.”*

Some specific proposals and commitments were made by participants. The Chair of the Private Sector Partnership (PSP) of the UNISDR confirmed that the 96 members of this existing partnership are committed to making available their risk management expertise to local and national governments to support the implementation of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. She further reinforced the commitment of all members to employ the tools developed within the PSP and to engage closely with the UN system and other organisations and bodies at the international level.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands proposed to continue the discussion in a high-level format at the UN Financing for Development Conference to be held in Addis Ababa in July 2015 specifically on effective mechanisms for public-private cooperation in concrete project implementation and financing terms.

Specific statements of support and new commitments to engage in disaster risk reduction through the R!SE Initiative were made by several panellists. Private sector participants expressed their commitment to provide expertise and technology to risk reduction and disaster management efforts of the public sector in support of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.