Official meetings

Sunday, 15 March 2015

General Assembly

Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

10:00 to 13:00 3rd plenary meeting [webcast] Exhibition Hall 2

1. General exchange of views [item 8] (continued)

Statement by His Excellency John Amarathunga, Minister of Public Order, Disaster Management and Christian Religious Affairs of Sri Lanka

Statement by His Excellency Richard Brabec, Minister of Environment of the Czech Republic

Statement by His Excellency Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury, Minister of Disaster Management and Relief of Bangladesh

Statement by Her Excellency Annick Girardin, Minister of State for Development and Francophony of France

Statement by His Excellency Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli, Minister of Interior of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Statement by His Excellency René Emmanuel Sadi, Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization of Cameroon

Statement by His Excellency Samuel Manetoali, Minister for Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology of the Solomon Islands

Statement by His Excellency K. Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law of Singapore

Statement by His Excellency Michael Keenan, Minister for Justice of Australia

Statement by His Excellency Faamoetauloa Taito Faale Tumaalii, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of Samoa

1Speakers remaining from a plenary meeting, if any, will be given the floor at the beginning of the next meeting.
Statement by His Excellency Park In Yong, Minister of Public Safety and Security of the Republic of Korea

Statement by His Excellency Joaquin Roa, Minister for National Emergencies of Paraguay

Statement by His Excellency Gilberto Magalhães Occhi, Minister of National Integration of Brazil

Statement by His Excellency Abdoulaye Balde, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Senegal

Statement by His Excellency Rashid Ahmed Bin-Fahad, Minister of Environment and Water of the United Arab Emirates

Statement by His Excellency Aaron Cook, Minister for Commerce, Industry and Environment of Nauru

Statement by His Excellency Mahafaly Solonandrasana Olivier Jocelyn, Minister of Interior and Decentralization of Madagascar

Statement by Her Excellency Laila Iskander, Minister for Urban Renewal and Informal Settlements of Egypt

Statement by His Excellency Noel Arscott, Minister of Local Government and Community Development of Jamaica

Statement by His Excellency Ismat Abdelrahman Zeinelabdin Elhassan, Minister of Interior of the Sudan

Statement by His Excellency Kubatbek Boronov, Minister of Emergency Situations of Kyrgyzstan

2. Statements by intergovernmental and other organizations [item 9]

Statement by Mr. William Lacy Swing, Director-General of the International Organization for Migration

Statement by Ms. Grete Faremo, Executive Director of the United Nations Office for Project Services

Statement by Ms. Ertharin Cousin, Executive Director of the World Food Programme

Statement by Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund

Statement by Mr. Jean Claude de l’Estrac, Secretary-General of the Indian Ocean Commission

15:00 to 18:00  4th plenary meeting [webcast]  Exhibition Hall 2

1. General exchange of views [item 8] (continued)

Address by His Excellency Anote Tong, President, Head of Government and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kiribati

Statement by His Excellency George Thapatula Chaponda, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Malawi

¹Speakers remaining from a plenary meeting, if any, will be given the floor at the beginning of the next meeting.
Statement by His Excellency Didier Dogley, Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change of Seychelles

Statement by His Excellency Armen Yeritsyan, Minister of Territorial Administration and Emergency Situations of Armenia

Statement by His Excellency Gerry Brownlee, Leader of the House, Minister of Defence, Minister of Canterbury Earthquake Recovery, Minister responsible for the Earthquake Commission of New Zealand

Statement by His Excellency Thoriq Ibrahim, Minister of Environment and Energy of the Maldives

Statement by His Excellency Mahendra Bahadur Pandey, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal

Statement by His Excellency Wilbur Heine, Minister-in-Assistance to the President of the Marshall Islands

Statement by His Excellency Marciej Grabowski, Minister of Environment of Poland

Statement by Her Excellency Isabel Amaral Guterres, Minister of Social Solidarity of Timor-Leste

Statement by His Excellency Nejib Derouiche, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Tunisia

Statement by Her Excellency Marisa Morais, Minister for Home Affairs of Cabo Verde

Statement by Her Excellency Myat Myat Ohn Khin, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement of Myanmar

Statement by His Excellency Ramon Pardo Guerra, Minister of Civil Defence of Cuba

Statement by His Excellency Remi Allah-Kouadio, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Côte d’Ivoire

Statement by Her Excellency Isabella Lövin, Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden

Statement by Mr. Lapo Pistelli, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy

Statement by Mr. Edgardo Riveros Marin, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Chile

Statement by Mr. Syed Tariq Fatemi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan

Qatar

Philippines

Statement by Mr. Luis Felipe Puente, State Minister, National Coordinator for Civil Protection of Mexico

2. Statements by intergovernmental and other organizations [item 9]

Statement by Her Excellency Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union
Statement by Ms. Inger Andersen, Director-General of the International Union for Conservation of Nature

Statement by Mr. Tadateru Konoe, President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

3. Statements by non-governmental organizations [item 10]

Women Major Group

Ministerial round table 1: Reconstruction after disasters: building back better
10:00 to 13:00 [webcast] Meeting Room 1 and 2 [A106]

Chair

His Excellency Numan Kurtulmus, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey

Ministerial round table 2: International cooperation in support of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction
15:00 to 18:00 [webcast] Meeting Room 1 and 2 [A106]

Chair

His Excellency Rajnath Singh, Minister of Home Affairs of India

[The roundtables will be interactive and multi-stakeholder in nature, with 45 seats each: up to 40 for Government delegations and at least 5 for other participants, including representatives of observers, entities of the United Nations system and other accredited intergovernmental organizations and major groups. Member States and other participants are encouraged to be represented at the roundtables at the highest possible level. In a Note Verbale dated 28 November 2014, delegations were requested to submit three choices, in order of preference, together with the name, title and email address of the participating minister and delegate to the Secretariat (e-mail palm@un.org, with a copy to goldfinch@un.org). Concept notes on the ministerial roundtables are available on the Conference website.]

Programme of working sessions and side events

The interactive online programme of working sessions and side events (on-site) to be held during the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction is available on the official Conference website (please click here). Queries regarding side events should be addressed to wcdr2015@un.org (with subject line “Public Forum”).
Forthcoming official meetings

Monday, 16 March 2015

General Assembly

Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

10:00 to 13:00  5th plenary meeting  Exhibition Hall 2

1. General exchange of views [item 8] (continued)

Statement by Her Excellency Anabela Rodrigues, Minister of Internal Administration of Portugal

Statement by Her Excellency Lina Dolores Pohl, Minister of Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador

Statement by His Excellency Damcho Dorji, Minister of Home and Cultural Affairs of Bhutan

Statement by His Excellency Andre Johnson, Minister of Environment of Togo

Statement by Mr. Vladimir Bozkho, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Kazakhstan

Statement by Mr. Mitiku Kassa, State Minister of Agriculture of Ethiopia

Statement by Mr. Desmond Sawyne, Minister of State for International Development of the United Kingdom

Statement by Mr. Miloš Bizjak, State Secretary at the Ministry of Defence of Slovenia

Statement by Mr. Orujali Hajiyev, Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations of Azerbaijan

Statement by Mr. Silva Roque Samuel, Vice-Minister of State Administration and Public Service of Mozambique

Statement by Mr. René Oscar Cabrera Coca, Vice-Minister of Public Defence of the Plurinational State of Bolivia

Statement by Mr. Hans Brattskar, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Norway

Statement by Mr. Luis Aguilera, Vice-Minister for Home Affairs of Spain

Statement by Mr. Raed Arafat, Secretary of State, Minister of Interior of Romania

Statement by Mr. Thomas Silberhorn, State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany

Statement by Mr. Melizi Tahar, Vice-Minister, Head of the Natural Delegation of Major Risks of Algeria

Hungary

United States

Guyana

Israel

Colombia
State of Palestine
Costa Rica
Bosnia and Herzegovina

2. Statements by intergovernmental and other organizations [item 9]

Statement by Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

Statement by Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator of the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Statement by Ms. Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

3. Statements by non-governmental organizations [item 10]

Workers and Trade Unions Major Group

15:00 to 18:00 6th plenary meeting Exhibition Hall 2

1. General exchange of views [item 8] (continued)

Statement by His Excellency Dan Kesch, Minister for Home Affairs of Luxembourg

Statement by Her Excellency Lilianne Ploumen, Minister of International Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands

Statement by Ms. Zoralma Cuello, Vice-Minister in the Presidency of the Dominican Republic

Peru
Lebanon
Guatemala
Tuvalu
Austria
Greece
Argentina
Holy See
Morocco
New Caledonia (Associate Member)

2. Statements by intergovernmental and other organizations [item 9]

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
United Nations Volunteers
United Nations University
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Sovereign Military Order of Malta
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
United Nations Office for Space Affairs
Pacific Islands Forum
World Health Organization

3. Statements by non-governmental organizations [item 10]
   Persons Living with Disabilities
   Major Group on Science and Technology

Ministerial round table 3: Governing disaster risk: overcoming challenges
10:00 to 13:00
Meeting Room 1 and 2 [A106]

Chair
Her Excellency María Del Pilar Cornejo, Minister of the Secretariat of Risk Management of Ecuador

Ministerial round table 4: Reducing disaster risk in urban settings
15:00 to 18:00
Meeting Room 1 and 2 [A106]

Chair
His Excellency Pravin Jamnadas Gordhan, Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs of South Africa

High-level multi-stakeholder partnership dialogue 2: Risk-sensitive investment: Public-private partnerships
15:00 to 18:00
Exhibition Hall 1

Chair
His Excellency Fuat Oktay, Director-General of the Prime Ministry Emergency and Disaster Management Authority of Turkey

Keynote speaker
Ms. Gaëlle Olivier, Chief Executive Officer, General Insurance, Asia, AXA Asia

Moderator
Mr. David Eades, International journalist

Panellists
Mr. Henk Ovink, Special Envoy for International Water Affairs of the Netherlands
Ms. Sandra Wu, Chair and Chief Executive Officer of Kokusai Kogyo and Chair of UNISDR’s Private Sector Advisory Group and Private Sector Partnership
Interactive Exchange

Announcements

A daily coordination briefing for Major Groups and other stakeholders will take place in Room B-115 of the Sendai International Centre.

“Hyogo Framework Action Success Story” videos will be showcased at the Auditorium, Sendai City Museum (opposite to Sendai International Centre) from 13:15 to 15:00 (in English) and from 15:30 to 16:00 (in Arabic). Please click here for the full broadcast schedule, and click here to watch the full playlist online.

Additional information on the Conference is also available on the conference website (click here).

Credentials

In accordance with rule 3 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, the credentials of representatives and names of alternate representatives and advisers should be addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and delivered to the Office of Legal Affairs located on B306, Level 3, Sendai International Conference Centre Building (Attn. Ms. Tomoko Iwata; or Mr. Keiichiro Okimoto). The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister of Foreign Affairs or, in the case of the European Union, by the President of the European Commission.

Accreditation

Accreditation of official delegations of States, intergovernmental organizations and associate members of regional commissions, as well as specialized agencies and related organizations, is handled by the United Nations Protocol and Liaison Service via the online system “eAccreditation”. Submission of online accreditation requests for members of the delegations via “eAccreditation” system must be handled by permanent/observer missions and offices in New York, who have already been registered and provided with secured login credential (password). Delegations wishing to attend the conference are advised to coordinate with their missions/offices in New York for timely submission of accreditation requests.

For detailed guideline on accreditation to the conference, please refer to the Protocol note verbale of 13 January 2015 (PRO/NV/WCDRR 2015/ARRANGEMENTS) posted on the protocol website www.un.int/protocol.
Summary of official meetings

Saturday, 14 March 2015

General Assembly

Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

1st meeting

Opening of the Conference [item 1]

The Secretary-General of the United Nations declared open the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Election of the President [item 2]

The Conference elected, by acclamation, Her Excellency Eriko Yamatani, Minister of State for Disaster Management of Japan, as President of the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Statement by the President [item 3]

The Conference heard statements by Her Excellency Eriko Yamatani, President of the Conference; His Excellency Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations; His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of the host country; His Excellency Laurent Fabius, incoming President of the twenty-first session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Ms. Regina Pritchett, speaking as a representative of the nine Major Groups as defined in Agenda 21; and Her Excellency Emiko Okuyama, Mayor of Sendai City, Japan.

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (A/CONF.224/1/Rev.1) [item 4]

The Conference adopted its agenda, as contained in document A/CONF.224/1/Rev.1.

The Conference approved its programme of work, as contained in documents A/CONF.224/2 and A/CONF.224/2/Add.1.

The Conference established, in accordance with rule 46 of the provisional rules of procedure, a Main Committee and allocated to it agenda item 11 (Adoption of the final outcomes of the Conference).

The Conference thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 4.

Adoption of the rules of procedure [item 5]

The Conference adopted its rules of procedure, as contained in document A/CONF.224/3.

The Conference thus concluded its consideration of agenda item 5.

Election of officers other than the President [item 6]

Pursuant to rule 6 of the rules of procedure the following States were elected by acclamation as Vice-Presidents of the Conference: African States: Egypt and South Sudan; Asia-Pacific States: Bangladesh and Thailand; Eastern European States: the Czech Republic and the Russian Federation; Latin America and Caribbean States: Ecuador and Jamaica; and Western European and Other States: Finland and Switzerland.
The Conference also elected, by acclamation, Japan as the ex-officio Vice-President of the Conference.

His Excellency Toni Frisch (Switzerland) was designated as Rapporteur-General of the Conference.

The Conference decided to interpret references to “a Chair” of the Main Committee in the rules of procedure as “Co-Chairs” of the Main Committee.

The Conference elected, by acclamation, Her Excellency Päivi Kairamo (Finland) and His Excellency Thani Thongphakdi (Thailand) as the Co-Chairs of the Main Committee.

The Conference thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 6.

Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee [item 7 (a)]

The Conference, in accordance with rule 4 of its rules of procedure, appointed the following States as members of the Credentials Committee: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Denmark, Jamaica, Namibia, the Russian Federation, Senegal and the United States of America.

General exchange of views [item 8]

The Conference heard addresses by His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan and Head of Government of the host country; His Excellency Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, President of Turkmenistan; His Majesty King Mswati III, Head of State of the Kingdom of Swaziland; His Excellency Emanuel Mori, President and Head of Government of the Federated States of Micronesia; His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces of the Republic of Kenya; His Excellency Baldwin Lonsdale, President of the Republic of Vanuatu; and His Excellency Robert Mugabe, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Statement by the President [item 3]

A statement by the President of the sixty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly was delivered by His Majesty King Mswati III, Head of State of the Kingdom of Swaziland in his capacity as Vice-President of the General Assembly.

Statements by intergovernmental and other organizations [item 9]

The Conference heard a statement by His Excellency Han Seung-soo, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for Disaster Risk Reduction and Water.

2nd meeting General exchange of views [item 8]

The Conference heard addresses by Her Excellency Nguyen Thi Doan, Vice-President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam; His Excellency Muhammad Jusuf Kalla, Vice-President of the Republic of Indonesia; His Excellency Kwek Amissah-Arthur, Vice-President of the Republic of Ghana; His Excellency Prosper Bazombanza, Vice-President of the Republic of Burundi; His Excellency James Wani Igga, Vice-President of the Republic of South Sudan; Her Excellency Inonge Wina, Vice-President of the Republic of Zambia; His Excellency General Prayut Chan-ocha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand; His Excellency Mizengo Pinda, Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania; and His Excellency Anastase Murekezi, Prime Minister of the Republic of Rwanda.

The Conference heard statements by His Excellency Numan Kurtulmus, Deputy Prime Minister of Turkey and His Excellency Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia.
The Conference heard an address by Her Excellency Kristalina Georgieva, Vice-President for Budget and Human Resources of the European Commission.

The Conference heard statements by His Excellency Siaosi Sovaleni, Deputy Prime Minister of Tonga; His Excellency Ukhnaa Khurelsukh, Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia; His Excellency Asang Laoly, Deputy Prime Minister and Chair of the National Disaster Prevention and Control Committee of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic; His Excellency Pravin Gordhan, Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs of South Africa; Her Excellency María del Pilar Cornejo, Minister of the Secretariat of Risk Management of Ecuador; His Excellency Ly Thuch, Senior Minister and Vice Chair of the National Committee for Disaster Management of Cambodia; His Excellency Vladimir Puchkov, Minister for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disaster of the Russian Federation; His Excellency Didier Burkhalter, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Switzerland; His Excellency Rajnath Singh, Minister of Home Affairs of India; His Excellency Li Liguo, Minister of Civil Affairs of China; Mr. Peter Burian, State Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovakia; and Mr. Khayridin Abdurakhmov, Chair of the Committee on Emergency Situations of Tajikistan.

High-level multi-stakeholder partnership dialogue 1 “Mobilizing women’s leadership in disaster risk reduction”

The Co-Chair of the High-level multi-stakeholder partnership dialogue 1, Her Excellency Loren Legarda, Member of the Senate of the Philippines, opened the dialogue and made a statement. The dialogue was co-chaired by Her Excellency Sanae Takaichi, Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan, who also made a statement.

A keynote address was delivered by His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.

The partnership dialogue was moderated by Mr. Riz Khan, International journalist, who also made a statement.

The floor then was offered to the panellists, who made statements in the following order: Her Excellency Tarja Halonen, Former President of the Republic of Finland; Her Excellency Emiko Okuyama, Mayor of Sendai City, Japan; Her Excellency Kristalina Georgieva, Vice-President for Budget and Human Resources of the European Commission; Ms. Ertharin Cousin, Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme; Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund; and Ms. Adi Vasulevu Merewalesi, Representative of the FemLINK PACIFIC.

An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Bangladesh, Mauritania, the Philippines, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Maldives, the United Kingdom and Benin.

Statements were made by the representatives of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the World Bank, the Global Environment Fund and the Global Water Partnership.

Statements were made by the representatives of the following Major Groups: Women and Indigenous Peoples.
Statements were also made by the representatives of Civil Society from Peru and Indonesia.

The Moderator, the Keynote speaker and the panellists responded to comments made and questions raised during the interactive discussion.

The Co-Chair, Her Excellency Sanae Takaichi, Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan declared the High-level multi-stakeholder partnership dialogue on “Mobilizing women’s leadership in disaster risk reduction” closed.

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**Main Committee**

1st meeting

Her Excellency Päivi Kairamo (Finland), Co-Chair of the Main Committee for the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, opened the meeting.

The Committee was informed that in view of the time constraints, there was no need to elect a Rapporteur and that the Co-Chairs would submit the report of the Main Committee.

The Committee was also informed that most of the work of the Main Committee would be conducted through informal consultations, to begin immediately after the adjournment of the formal meeting.

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**General information**

*More details on the information below are available in document A/CONF.224/INF/1.*

**Security screening**

Every effort is being made to ensure that security screening for access to the Conference venue is smooth and fast, but some delays may be unavoidable. All participants are encouraged to arrive early, to avoid bringing large items, and to prepare for screening when approaching the metal detectors.

**Information for participants**

A note by the Secretariat containing information for participants has been issued as document A/CONF.224/INF/1.
Distribution of official documents

A documents counter with limited hard copies of official documents and the Journal for delegations will be located in Exhibition Hall 2 during the plenary meetings of the Conference. Delegations are encouraged to bring their own mobile devices loaded with the relevant documentation. All Conference documents will be available on the Conference website (click here). A print-on-demand service will be available for a fee at the Business Centre for those delegations needing extra hard copies.

Circulation of written statements

Pursuant to rule 66 of the draft provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, written statements submitted by the designated representatives referred to in rules 60 to 65 shall be distributed by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and in the languages in which the statements are made available to it at the site of the Conference, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a non-governmental organization is related to the work of the Conference and is on a subject in which the organization has a special competence. Copies of written statements shall not be made by the secretariat and the written statements shall not be issued as official documents of the Conference.

All delegations, prior to delivery of the statement, are kindly requested to e-mail a copy of their statement to wcdr2015@un.org, indicating in the subject line, “Statement and name of country or organization”. Where possible, statements should be provided one day in advance of delivery or at least three hours before the delivery of the statement for onward transmission to interpreters and secretariat note-takers and for posting on the Conference website.

Arrangements for bilateral meetings

For bilateral meetings among States at the Head of State or Government or ministerial level, requests can be sent to wcdr2015@un.org. To prevent double booking, only the delegation initiating the bilateral meeting should submit the request. Reservations will be accepted for 20-minute durations. It is essential that all requests specify the date and time of each meeting, and include the name of the other delegation participating in the bilateral meeting and expected number of participants. Limited rooms, of varying sizes with a capacity to hold between eight, ten or twelve participants in total, will be available for bilateral meetings. Every effort will be made to keep consecutive appointments of the same delegation in the same room.

Live webcast coverage

The United Nations webcast services will provide live and on-demand coverage of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Official Statements, High level Partnership Dialogue sessions, Ministerial Roundtable sessions and Press Conferences. The webcast coverage is available on the UN Web TV website at http://webtv.un.org, in English, Japanese and the original language of the speaker.