

Informal Working Group on Targets and Indicators
**Report to the Co-Chairs of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee of the Third UN
Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction**

I. Introduction

The Co-Chairs of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction established an Informal Working Group on Targets and Indicators to complement consultations on the zero-draft of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

The group has been led by Facilitator and member of the Bureau, H.E. Wayne McCook, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the UN in Geneva. The Informal Working Group Terms of Reference are attached (see Annex A). The main work of the Informal Working Group prior to the Preparatory Committee was to advise the Co-Chairs on the targets identified in the zero draft (paragraph 13) of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction and consider the linkages of targets with sustainable development goals, climate change agreement, and the agenda emanating for the World Humanitarian Summit.

Participation in the Informal Working Group has been open-ended for States, UN organizations and the World Bank have also been invited as observers. The Informal Working Group held four meetings with States and observers (20 and 24 October, 6 and 12 November 2014); and, held a joint meeting with Major Groups on 10 November 2014. Reports on each of the meetings are attached (Annex B) and available on the web site link:

<http://www.wcdrr.org/preparatory/openmeetings/targetsandindicators>

The report to the co-Chairs summarizes the findings and suggestions with general considerations and then on each of the proposed five targets of the zero draft and two additional targets the Informal Working Group recommended for consideration. The final section is proposal for text of paragraph 13 of the zero draft of the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction.

II. General considerations

States indicated throughout the Informal Working Group deliberations that they will require further consideration of the proposed global targets in order to fully examine the implications for national governments.

The Informal Working Group deliberations suggested that the measurement of targets in general needs to be contextualised with respect to information on hazard and exposure. However, care needs to be exercised in developing indicators to avoid skewing results.

The Informal Working Group requested to the Co-Chairs to consider a timeframe of 15 years (i.e. to 2030) for the global targets may be more appropriate in order to align with the post-2015 agenda (sustainable development goals and climate change). This may also have implications for the proposed lifespan of 20 years in the zero draft.

In terms of baselines for targets, the Informal Working Group suggested that they should cover at least the last 10 years preceding the start of any monitoring process. Proposals for the percentages in each of the targets are still to be put forward and consulted on.

Many of the proposed targets tended to be a negative connotation, like reducing mortality and economic losses or damage to facilities as a consequence of disasters. There is scope to consider more optimistic targets, for example around continuing education and health systems. The Informal Working Group asked experts to advise further on options for more positively oriented targets.

More reflection was needed in the proposed targets on the potential impact of slow onset disasters (like drought), and on small scale localized disasters. The Informal Working Group asked experts to advise further on how these can be reflected in global targets and indicators.

Expert views indicated that while, based on current trends, it should be possible to achieve an absolute reduction in disaster mortality in coming years (target 1) this will be more challenging with respect to people affected (target 2) and economic loss (target 3). It is therefore suggested to establish the latter two targets relative to total population for target 2 and GDP for target 3.

III. Considerations on specific proposed targets

1. Reduce disaster mortality by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[XX];
 - Regarded as relevant and should be included in the list of proposed targets to be presented to the co-Chairs.
 - Recommend absolute mortality figures with missing people taken appropriately into account.
 - Reflect disaggregated data on mortality by age, gender and people with disability as appropriate.

2. Reduce the number of affected people by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[XX];
 - Regarded as relevant and should be included in the list of proposed targets to be presented to the co-Chairs.

- Recommend “affected people” should be measured combining the number of injured people, the number of people evacuated, the number of people relocated, and houses damaged and houses destroyed. Data for these are available in the majority of current disaster loss databases.
 - Further discussion and development of categories to define “affected people” will be required. Consideration to be given to people with disaster related *diseases*. Data on *loss of livelihood*, *loss of livestock*, *loss of crops* could also be considered as appropriate.
3. Reduce direct disaster economic loss by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] in relation to the GDP by 20[XX];
- Regarded as relevant and should be included in the list of proposed targets to be presented to the co-Chairs.
 - Recommend reflection of reduction of direct economic loss in relation to the GDP per country.
 - Direct economic loss should also include livestock and crop losses where data is available.
4. Reduce disaster damage to health and educational facilities by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[XX];
- Further consultations are required to define the scope of target 4.
 - Education and health facilities are critical infrastructure and their damage due to disasters is commonly available, concrete and verifiable.
 - Consider “disruption” or “closure” instead of “damage”.
 - Possibilities to broaden the scope of the target to address other critical infrastructure and facilities such as in the power, transport, telecommunications , water and sanitation sectors.
5. Increase number of countries with national and local strategies by [a given percentage] by 20[xx];
- Further consultations are required to define the scope of target 5.
 - Consider inclusion of climate change adaptation strategies and other relevant sustainable development strategies in order to strengthen coherence with post-2015 agendas.
 - Consider focusing on national strategies with the option for countries to have and report on local strategies.

- The timeframe can be shorter in this input target, for example by 2020.
- Integrated, multi-hazard risk assessments should be the foundation of national risk strategies.
- Indicators could include the % of population covered by national strategies; numbers of cities and human settlements strategies and plans; the existence of minimum required capacity required; and, every country has a comprehensive disaster risk assessment updated in the [X] years.
- A proposal was suggested:
 - *“To increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk management strategies as well as integrated multi-hazard risk assessment and assessment of their capacities to manage the identified risk by 20[XX].”*

6. International cooperation and global partnership;

- Further consultations are required to define the scope of target on international cooperation and global partnership.
- Two proposed targets were tabled:
 - *“International cooperation to stimulate the creation and strengthening of national capacities and technology transfer at the regional and sub-regional levels”.*
 - *“Increase flow of additional, sustained and predictable means of implementation in particular provisions of financial resources for disaster risk reduction including public investments, technology transfer, capacity building, etc; from developed countries to developing countries by [x percentage of gross national income] per year up to 20[XX].”*

7. Risk information and early warning;

- Further consultations are required to define the scope of target risk information and early warning.
- The new target to present to co-Chairs is:
 - *“To increase the number of people, including vulnerable people, with access to early warning and risk information by [given percentage] by 20[XX].”*
- Early warning systems can be an output of national strategies. Achieving full coverage of early warning systems requires international cooperation.

IV. Proposal for co-Chairs

With the comments and suggestions of the above section II and III of the report still to be fully considered and developed, the Co-Chairs are invited to consider the following text for an update of paragraph 13 of the zero draft :

“To support the assessment of global progress in achieving the expected outcome, [seven global targets are identified: reduce disaster mortality by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[30/35]; reduce the number of affected people by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[30/35]; reduce direct disaster economic loss by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] in relation to the GDP by 20[30/35]; reduce disaster damage to health and educational facilities by [a given percentage in function of number of hazardous events] by 20[30/35]; increase number of countries with national and local disaster risk management strategies by [a given percentage] by 20[20/30/35]; international cooperation to stimulate the creation and strengthening of national capacities and technology transfer at the regional and sub-regional levels/increase flow of additional, sustained and predictable means of implementation in particular provisions of financial resources for disaster risk reduction including public investments, technology transfer, capacity building, etc; from developed countries to developing countries by [x percentage of gross national income] per year up to 20[XX]”; increase the number of people, including vulnerable people, with access to early warning and risk information by [given percentage] by 20[XX].”

V. List of Annexes

Annexe A:

Terms of Reference of the Informal Working Group on Targets and Indicators.

Annexes B:

Reports of meetings of the Informal Working Group on Targets an Indicators

- First meeting on 20 October 2014
- Second meeting on 24 October 2014
- Third meeting on 6 November 2014
- Joint meeting of the Informal Working Group with Major Groups on 10 November 2014
- Fourth meeting on 12 November 2014