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Compilation of the Outcomes of the Regional and  
Thematic Meetings for the Preparation of the  
World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR)  
18-22 January 2005, Kobe-Hyogo, Japan

**INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON DISASTER REDUCTION  
TENTH SESSION  
GENEVA, 7-8 OCTOBER 2004**

# Compilation of the Outcomes of the Regional and Thematic Meetings for the Preparation of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) 18-22 January 2005, Kobe-Hyogo, Japan

The information compiled in this document is drawn from events organized by Governments, international organizations and other partners in the context of the preparation of the WCDR.

The recommendations and outputs of these events contribute to the preparations of the WCDR, as well as to the future implementation of its outcomes. For each event, a summary of relevant recommendations is provided, along with a source (contact or webpage) for further information.

Many events have taken place throughout 2003 and 2004 on diverse subjects, sectors and regions related to reducing the risk related natural hazards. The present compilation does not cover all of these. For a more complete view of the events that have taken place, please refer to <http://www.unisdr.org/meeting-conference.htm>.

**Version 2**

**Geneva, October 2004**

**UN Secretariat for the ISDR:** Palais des Nations, 8-12 Avenue de la Paix, Geneva, Switzerland.  
Tel: (41-22) 917 25 29, Fax: (41-22) 917 05 63, E-mail: [isdr@un.org](mailto:isdr@un.org)  
Website: [www.unisdr.org](http://www.unisdr.org)

## Compilation of Regional and Thematic Meeting Outcomes

Reminder: Five themes identified for the WCDR

1. Governance: institutional and policy frameworks for risk reduction
2. Risk identification, assessment, monitoring and early warning
3. Knowledge management and education: building a culture of prevention
4. Reducing the underlying risk factors
5. Preparedness for effective response

List of Events	Outcomes relevant to theme:					Comments:	Page	
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<b>2003</b>								
1.	First Asian consultation, Kobe-Hyogo, Japan, 17 January	✓	✓		✓		Asian regional meeting with a focus on urban vulnerability, Climate change, cooperation and information management	7
2.	Pacific Regional Consultation, Fiji, 5-7 May	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		10
3.	Regional consultation on Early Warning in Asia, Bandung, Indonesia, 26-28 May	✓	✓		✓		Regional Preparation for the EWC-II	13
4.	Regional consultation on Early Warning in Americas, Antigua, Guatemala, 3-5 June	✓	✓		✓		Regional preparation for the EWC-II	15
5.	Regional consultation on Early Warning in Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, 23-24 June 03	✓	✓		✓		Regional preparation for the EWC-II	18
6.	Regional consultation on Early Warning in Europe, Potsdam, Germany, 28-29 July	✓	✓		✓		Regional preparation for the EWC-II	20
7.	Online Conference to develop Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 25 August to 25 September	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Recommendations on the conceptual framework for disaster risk reduction	22

8.	Safer Sustainable Communities 2003 Australian Disaster Conference (EMA), Canberra, 10-12 September		✓	✓	✓	✓	Themes include: working with the communities, Security and counter-terrorism, community education, information management, partnerships	24
9.	Euro-Mediterranean consultations, Madrid, Spain, 6-8 October	✓		✓			Regional recommendation with a focus on education.	26
10.	International Wildland Fire Summit, Sydney, Australia, 8 October	✓			✓	✓	Provided guidance on follow up to the WG4 of the IATF and established the Global Wildland Fire Network programme and the Wildland Fire Advisory Group	28
11.	Second International Conference on Early Warning, Bonn, Germany, 16-18 October	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Launched programme on all aspects of early warning to reduce the impact of disasters	30
12.	Asian International Conference on Total Disaster Risk Management, Kobe, Japan, 2-4 December	✓			✓	✓	Conceptual discussions on TDRM and mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national planning	32
13.	International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Geneva, 2-5 December	✓		✓		✓	Strengthening of disaster reduction concepts within IFRC processes	35
14.	15. Forum Mitch+ 5, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 9-11 December	✓				✓	Policy recommendations to strengthen the Strategy Framework for Vulnerability Reduction of Natural disaster in Central America	38
<b>2004</b>								
15.	Inter-regional preparatory meeting for SIDS BPoA + 10, Bahamas, 26-30 January	✓					Recognition of the linkages between the BPoA and the WCDR	38
16.	Third Asian consultation, Cambodia, 4-6 February	✓	✓				Focus on future challenges in Asia	42

17.	Sustainable Community Empowerment for Disaster Management organized, Kobe-Hyogo, Japan, 6-7 February	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Recommendations on Community Based Disaster Management for the WCDR	44
18.	Third Asian Consultative Meeting of Regional Organizations and Regional Offices of UN Agencies, Manila, Philippines, 24-26 February	✓	✓				Regional meeting of agencies involved in DRR	47
19.	Thirty-first session WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 1-6 March		✓				Focus on early warning	49
20.	EUR-OPA, Rabat, Morocco, 11-13 March	✓					Focus on research programmes for earthquake risk, risk legislations, environmental security and synergy between institutions	51
21.	Risk Management and a Sustainable Development Factor on Human Scale-Ibero-America Civil Protection, Santiago, Chile, 24-26 March	✓				✓		53
22.	Global Disaster Information Network Conference (GDIN), Washington DC, USA, 26-29 March		✓				Focus on information management	54
23.	ADPC Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management Dhaka, Bangladesh 29-31 March,	✓	✓				Asia regional consultations with a focus on Urban vulnerability	55
24.	Latin American Meeting on Health Risk Reduction, Nicaragua, 21 - 23 April	✓			✓	✓	Provided recommendations on health and disaster reduction for the WCDR Includes suggestions of targets.	57

25.	International Conference on Disaster Reduction, Beijing, People's Republic of China, 25-27 May,	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regional preparatory event for Asia for the WCDR	59
26.	African Regional Consultation on Disaster Reduction. A Preparation for the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, 2-3 June, Johannesburg, South Africa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Regional preparatory event for Africa for the WCDR	63
27.	Pacific Regional Stakeholders Planning Workshop, June, Suva						Proceedings being finalized	64
28.	Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop (University of Hawaii Social Science Research Institute, USAID, ISDR), Honolulu Hawaii, 10-12 August							64
29.	Partnership in Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM) in Asia, 24-26 August, Delhi, India	✓		✓	✓		Preparatory Conference for the WCDR on community based disaster risk management - with a focus on governance, civil society and corporate sector, and education	65
30.	Reunión Técnica Regional Estrategia de Comunicación e Información Pública para la Reducción de Riesgos y Desastres, 24-26 agosto, Antigua, Guatemala			✓	✓		Outputs being translated	66
31.	Reunión Latinoamericana y del Caribe sobre Educación para la Reducción de Riesgos y Desastres, 9 de setiembre, San Andrés, El Salvador			✓			Outputs being translated	66

32.	Joint Seminar on Systemic Risks and Lessons Learned: On the Road to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, 21-23 September, Karlskoga, Sweden								66
33.	LAC regional consultation towards Kobe, Quito-Ecuador, 16-17 September	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		Regional preparatory event for Latin America for the WCDR	69

### *Compilation of Event Outcomes*

<p>1.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>First Asian consultation, Kobe-Hyogo, Japan, 17 January 2003.</p>	<p>1.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional/Asia</p>
<p>1.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Cabinet Office of Japan, Hyogo Prefecture, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), and Disaster Reduction Alliance (DRA), ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p>1.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Policy representatives, experts in disaster and disaster risk management from 24 countries in Asia and other parts of the world, and representatives of 26 international and regional organizations</p>	
<p>1.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chairperson's Summary</li> <li>- Conclusion</li> </ul>	
<p>1.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/Asian_Conference_2003/top.htm">http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/Asian_Conference_2003/top.htm</a></p>	
<p>1.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Perspective of a New Disaster Reduction Strategy in Asia</p> <p>In Asia, there is a need to examine the following challenges:</p> <p>1) Urban vulnerability and disasters</p> <p>Rapid urban growth, as a result of the sharp economic development, is one of the main factors contributing to increased vulnerability to natural hazards in Asia. Unplanned urban growth results in a generalized increase in damage in case of earthquakes, floods and similar disasters. Once a disaster occurs, its direct and secondary impacts can become enormous. It is recognized that sustainable development, whether it is a developing county or a industrialized country, has to rely also on measures to counter urban vulnerability to natural disasters. Therefore, it is indispensable to undertake risk assessments based on vulnerability indicators, to build cities with reduced vulnerability, as well as to build capacity to recover from disasters and to reconstruct the affected urban areas rapidly.</p> <p>2) Response to climate change</p> <p>Additionally, it is necessary to respond to the effect of extreme climate</p>	



fluctuations. In addition, it is pointed out that rise in sea level and temperature will increase the risk of storm surge in island and low-lying coastal countries and extend the liquefaction of alluvial lands in time of earthquakes. In this regard, it is suggested to carry out a research on the correlation between climate change and disasters with a long-term view as well as to strengthen international cooperation to establish and improve early warning system at national, regional, and international levels.

### 3) Multi-disciplinary and inter-sectoral cooperation to address emerging challenges

In order to confront the problems mentioned above, it is vital to strengthen cooperation among various sectors, including some whose primary mandate may not explicitly include disaster reduction. Considering that social aspects as poverty and environmental degradation are the main factors to increase vulnerability, it is crucial to involve in disaster reduction actors of various fields, such as education, the media, science and technology, and development planning. In addition, cooperation with academic and scientific sectors is relevant for the study on the correlation between climate and disasters and the development of improved early warning systems.

Furthermore, to strengthen comprehensive disaster reduction capacity at the community level, it is essential to enhance partnership among various sectors including national and local governments, and various public and private sectors of the society.

### 4) Enhancement of Information Management Capacity

It is necessary to improve the collection, organization and dissemination of data (statistics and other relevant data) on the human, social, economic and environmental impact of disasters in order to demonstrate to policy and decision makers that disaster reduction is cost effective and conducive to sustainable development.

The sharing of information and the networking among relevant actors in the information field is essential to ensure wider involvement and a greater impact in policy and decision-making.

## 1.8. **Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

### Recommendations of the Conference

In order to respond to the trends in the 21<sup>st</sup> century in urban disasters, climate change and disasters, and to promote multi-disciplinary and inter-sectoral cooperation to address emerging challenges, it is indispensable to build a framework of international cooperation, among others, in the following areas:

#### 1) Urban vulnerability and disasters

-Promotion of disaster reduction strategies at the community level, in particular, to reduce vulnerability in urban areas and to promote activities to ensure safety

through the development of culture of prevention.

-Promotion of risk assessment based on vulnerability indicators, to build cities with reduced vulnerability, as well as build capacity to recover from disasters and to reconstruct the affected areas rapidly.

## 2) Response to climate change

-Promotion of research on the correlation between climate change and disasters with a long-term view.

-Establishment of improved early warning systems to reduce disasters caused by extreme events, such as floods and droughts.

## 3) Cooperation to address emerging challenges

-Establishment and strengthening of cooperation between various sectors of the community, such as education, the media, environment, development planning, science and technology in order to reduce the negative impacts of disasters.

-Participation of all sectors at the community level, such as the local governments, the private sector, NGOs, and other driving actors.

## 4) Enhancement of information management capacity

-Improvement of data collection and dissemination.

-Strengthening of information sharing and networking.

<p>2.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Pacific Regional Consultation, Fiji, 5-7 May 2003</p>	<p>2.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional/Pacific</p>
<p>2.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Emergency Management Australia (EMA), Government of Australia (AusAid), Government of Fiji, Government of New Zealand (NZAid), The Asia Foundation/Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (TAF/OFDA), ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p>2.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Regional disaster managers, policy representatives, experts in disaster and disaster risk and representatives of international and regional organizations.</p>	
<p>2.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Summary Record</p>	
<p>2.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p>Summary Record: SOPAC Miscellaneous Report 512, May 2003</p>	
<p>2.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Recommended that National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) work closely with their official representatives to the FOC to resolve the issue of the <i>Regional Disaster Relief Trust Fund</i>.</p> <p>Recommended the Secretariat work closely with EMA to strengthen communications capabilities of NDMOs.</p> <p>Recognised that a <i>Community Risk Management Policy for the Pacific Islands Region</i> will provide a significant means to express the unified intent across the region and offer underpinning support for continued Government endorsement.</p> <p>Acknowledged the progress of the Working Group formed to draft a <i>Community Risk Management Policy for the Pacific Islands Region</i> and tasked the Working Group to continue to work with the Secretariat to further develop the policy document.</p> <p>Recommended that the draft <i>Community Risk Management Policy for the Pacific</i></p>	

*Islands Region* be circulated to countries through NDMOs for comment and tabled for consideration and endorsement by the SOPAC Governing Council in September 2003.

Recommended that the Kiribati experiences be adopted as a basis for mainstreaming a regional model to support the introduction and implementation of CHARM.

Recommended that risk management models for adaptation be developed, with minimum requirements identified and documented.

Acknowledged the need for collaboration and continued communications and sharing of information and experiences to avoid or minimise duplication and maximise utilisation of resources and are mindful that the current SOPAC Community Risk Programme (CRP) represents a significant support framework and resource to enhance the capacity of the region to move to the wider principles of community risk as nations gain support from a range of regional and international agencies and donor organizations.

Inherent in this is an awareness to address the community risk programme as an integrated programme and recommended the Secretariat consider amendments, based upon the summary statement of the NDMOs.

Recommended the following key issues and challenges be supported throughout the region wherein initiatives and priorities are determined by a combination of regional and national needs and resource availability.

- Development of national disaster management planning framework and model legislation framework.
- Integration of NDMO office strategic and business plans with those of their Ministry.
- Capacity development of the NDMO office to function better, including support for better capacity for response and recovery management.
- Professional development of the NDMO in terms of both managerial office capacity and technical expertise and continuation of the mentoring programme, based upon individual needs.
- Development, implementation and institutionalization of the disaster and risk management training programme.
- Development of integrated scientific hazard assessment & risk reduction solutions.
- Development of a damage assessment system, guidelines and procedures, including the development of vulnerability assessment tools.
- Further development of the EVI tool and database.
- Strengthening of National research capacity.
- Development of Risk Management models for adaptation.
- Development and implementation of CHARM advocacy strategy

- Development and application of CHARM national support programmes.

Recommended it essential that the high-level advocacy initiative be continued and be utilised as a means of enhancing the profile of the NDM Office and its services.

The Meeting acknowledged the value of the presentations, plenary discussions and the recommendations of the *Communities at Risk Conference* and agreed that these be reflected in the record of the 11th Pacific Disaster Managers Meeting.

The following recommendations and key outcomes of discussions under the four main themes of the Conference follow:

- *Sustainable Communities through Risk Management Practices*
- *Scientific Knowledge and New Technologies in Disaster Reduction and Risk Management*
- *Strengthening Community Resilience*
- *Reviewing the Implementation of the Yokohama Strategy in the Pacific (Above)*

#### **2.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

##### *Reviewing the Implementation of the Yokohama Strategy in the Pacific*

Noting that individual nations will be invited to provide input to the January 2005 Kobe Conference recommends that SOPAC as the lead regional organization for disaster reduction and risk management coordinate regional input to the Yokohama Strategy and called upon the ISDR to provide resources towards assisting SOPAC for the coordination in preparation of the Kobe Conference in January 2005.

<p>3.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Regional consultation on Early Warning in Asia, Bandung, Indonesia, 26-28 May 2003</p>	<p>3.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Early Warning</p>
<p>3.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>ISDR Secretariat, UNESCAP, DGGMR of Indonesia and BGR of Germany</p>	
<p>3.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>30 participants from Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand, Viet Nam and international organizations: UNESCAP, ISDR, UNDP, Mekong River Commission, GTZ and an NGO</p>	
<p>3.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Overview of the Natural Disaster and Flood Forecasting and Warning Systems in the Asian Region</p>	
<p>3.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ewc2.org/UK/speeches/default.asp?m=6">http://www.ewc2.org/UK/speeches/default.asp?m=6</a>  <a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/Le_huu_ti.ppt">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/Le_huu_ti.ppt</a></p>	
<p>3.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>In Asia, overall, there has been progress in improving the capacity and capability to forecast events, access to warning information through expanding communication systems, ability and willingness to disseminate climate forecasts, and, the use of hazard mapping in risk assessment.</p> <p>Reflecting their transition status, several Asian countries are revising their hydrometeorological warning systems. New generation flood early warning systems that are general, comprehensive and user-friendly, are being developed in parts of Asia such as China and India. These systems combine rainfall prediction and flood forecast, erosion prediction and tidal surge forecasting in coastal areas. Perhaps the best example is in Japan, where flood forecasting and warning systems established three decades ago are in transition, in terms of need and content, to accommodate the changing the nature of flood, developments in the technology for flood detection and prediction, and, effects of human factors. This evolution of flood warning development illustrates the fact that hazard and vulnerability threats change and the design and implementation of warning systems need to be flexible and be based on continuous learning.</p>	

*Recommended National Actions*

- (1) to make available risk maps
- (2) to carry out awareness campaigns
- (3) to enhance institutional capacity
- (4) to develop national guidelines
- (5) to provide information to local people
- (6) to introduce EWS to schools
- (7) to enforce standard operation procedures
- (8) to increase budget resources
- (9) to enforce participatory planning
- (10) to improve monitoring in EWS.

*Recommended regional actions*

- Support forums for dialogue to share information, technology and best practices and to improve cooperation at all levels
- Support integration of disaster risk management into national development process
- Develop and implement EWS, especially for flash floods, landslides and forest fires
- Establish and develop community-based disaster preparedness programmes
- Establish a financial facility to enhance risk management of developing countries
- Develop and strengthen database to facilitate resource allocation
- Improve public awareness on disaster vulnerability
- Enhance hydrologic and meteorological forecast capability
- Support projects to facilitate application of forecasts at the national, local and community levels
- Enhance research on earthquake risk analysis

**3.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

*Concluding Remarks on Follow-up Activities of EWC-II*

- Activities should be linked to the Progress Review of Yokohama Action Plan Implementation
- Activities be built on expected achievements of existing regional efforts on EWS: *Typhoon Committee “Strategic Plan”, GFAS of IFNet, MRC Flood Management Program, DIPECHO Partnership Disaster Reduction, UN/ISDR Radius Program, GTZ Forest Fires Management, etc*
- Pilot projects are recommended for more effective impacts at the regional level

<p>4.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Regional consultation on Early Warning in Americas, Antigua, Guatemala, 3-5 June 2003</p>	<p>4.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Early Warning</p>
<p>4.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Association of Caribbean States, (ACS), Center for Disaster Prevention of Central America (CEPREDENAC), the United Nations Development Program regional office in Panama, German Technical Cooperation Agency, ISDR Regional Office in Costa Rica</p>	
<p>4.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency, (CDERA), the Center for Disaster Prevention of Central America (CEPREDENAC), the Federation of Municipalities of the Central American Isthmus (FEMICA), Global Fire Monitoring Center, (GFMC), various international Non-Government Organizations such as Red Cross, and international agencies such as Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), Organization of American States (OAS), and Association of Caribbean States, (AEC), and United Nations Development Program, (UNDP)</p>	
<p>4.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Hemispheric Consultation on Early Warning <i>Antigua Declaration</i></p>	
<p>4.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/Americas.pdf">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/Americas.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf</a></p>	
<p>4.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>1. During recent years there has been increased interest expressed by national leaders throughout the hemisphere to strengthen ties among and between each other. Economic and political stability, both affected by vulnerabilities to natural hazards. The Hemispheric Consultation considers important to ensure that each country takes the best advantage of market opportunities. Therefore, attention should be given to developing a strong argument, backed by sound research and specific examples, that investment in development and implementation of adequate EW, along with other Disaster Management Systems reduces economic loss, fosters economic security and supports short and long-term economic development. Hence, the Hemispheric Consultation promotes the development of</p>	



instruments which display the Cost / benefit relationship of Early Warning Systems.

2. Considering the successes gathered through the implementation of Early Warning Systems, the Hemispheric Consultation recommends that these issues be promoted as priority topics on agendas of preparatory processes and initiatives focusing on Disaster Reduction. Therefore, cross cutting commitments for incorporation of EW support within global dialogue (Yokohama, SIDS + 10, World Summit on Sustainable development, Millennium Declaration) should be promoted in all regions and policy sectors. In a parallel fashion, it reiterates the need of supporting processes associated with the compilation and dissemination of all aspects linked with Early Warning and respective systems.

3. As global or regional frameworks are developed to promote and support Early Warning research and applications, the Hemispheric Consultation recommends that liaisons be identified amongst professional organizations that can contribute to Early Warning. These include the World Meteorological Organization, International Union of Geology and Geophysics, the International Association of Hydrological Science, the Global Fire Monitoring Center, the International Tsunami Information Center, the International Global Observing Strategy, etc.

4. Often, industrialized countries have been the driving force behind research and application of science and technology with the goal of improving Early Warning in relation to natural hazards. Frequently, funding and technical support has been made available by these countries to share experience with other nations as well as international organizations and professional associations on a global or regional basis. The Hemispheric Consultation recommends that such support should be increased and sustained -- and not be dependent on the vagaries of politics or short-term economic climate -- particularly because of its importance to many countries currently unable to fully sustain adequate technical and human infrastructure to provide life and property -saving warnings.

5. Recognizing the fact that there are many types of hazards which generate disasters throughout the hemisphere, the Hemispheric Consultation recommends that all countries should participate in, and contribute to developing and implementing a rationale for common and constant funding strategy whereby support for Early Warning research and applications can be administered through regional and national coordinating mechanisms.

6. The definition of terminology, common acceptance, and usage of terms and concepts related to Early Warning needs to be improved and encouraged so that Early Warning will be better understood in its own context and as it relates to other phases of risk management and disaster preparedness.

7. Many advances in Early Warning have been made possible by the exchange of information and experiences. Thus, the Hemispheric Consultation deems

important to support mechanisms for Inter and Intra-Regional exchange of technical/scientific and social information, experiences and technology applications, as well as interactions among scientific/technical and social actors involved in the design and operation of Early Warning Systems.

8. Considering the successes gathered via the insertion of local communities into the framework of Early Warning Systems in some countries, the Hemispheric Consultation suggests that it is important to stimulate educational processes oriented towards the construction of a common vision of Disaster Management, which encompasses Early Warning as an essential element of risk management to promote a more sustainable development.

9. Early Warning is based on the knowledge of the various components of risk, therefore the Hemispheric Consultation considers useful supporting programs for hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment as a basis for Early Warning Systems, strengthen national and local capacities to allow for broader citizen participation, and promote the active participation of the media in Early Warning Systems.

10. Early Warning Systems rely on the precise forecast of events, which can provoke disasters. Therefore, the Hemispheric Consultation recommends strengthening technical/scientific institutions which play a role in Early Warning Systems via the promotion of relations with academic research centers to understand the dynamical nature of the hazards, and equip such institutions with similar or same equipment networks related to monitoring of such hazards in the sub-regions of the hemisphere.

11. The Hemispheric Consultation recommends that Early Warning Systems should be inserted within the national systems responsible of planning, coordination, risk management, and disaster preparedness. However, Early Warning Systems must also be conceived to involve many institutions, sectors, and representatives of the communities. Therefore, the Hemispheric Consultation promotes a clear definition of responsibilities through an adequate legal framework which recognizes existing capacities and limitations must be established as a means to promote ample and inter-institutional participation.

**4.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

See event 11, EWC-II Recommendations

<p><b>5.1. Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Regional consultation on Early Warning in Africa, Nairobi, Kenya, 23-24 June 2003</p>	<p><b>5.2. Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Early Warning</p>
<p><b>5.3. Organizers:</b></p> <p>The UN/ISDR Africa Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, Bureau for Crisis Prevention &amp; Reduction (BCPR) of UNDP, Drought Monitoring Centre of Nairobi (DMCN)</p>	
<p><b>5.4. Participants:</b></p> <p>Southern African Development Community (SADC), Great Horn of Africa (GHA), Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS), Maghreb Arab Union (UMA) sub-regions, policy representatives, experts in disaster and disaster risk management from Africa, and representatives of international and regional organizations (A total of 47 participants from 32 organizations and institutions attended the Consultation)</p>	
<p><b>5.5. Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Regional Report on Early Warning of Natural Disasters in Africa</p>	
<p><b>5.6. For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/Rukato.ppt">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/Rukato.ppt</a></p>	
<p><b>5.7. General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The foregoing discussions highlight several areas of improvements required to enhance the practice of early warning in Africa. The following key recommendations for improving early warning in Africa and enhancing its contribution to disaster risk reduction through better integration in public policy were identified during the Regional Consultation and add to and complement the earlier recommendations made throughout the Report.</p> <p>(a) Strengthening and establishment national and sub-regional early warning systems, particularly for major threats such as epidemics, food security, drought, flood, desertification and conflicts, including through capacity building</p> <p>(b) Rehabilitation, modernization and expansion of basic data and information infrastructure, particularly the maintenance and enhancement of</p>	

hydrometeorological networks and facilities

(c) Establishment and development of operational processes for data and information sharing and exchange, including through networking, to enhance synergies between the different early warning stakeholders and initiatives

(d) Enforcement of the rule of law for regulations and standards, especially in the private sector

(e) Integration of early warning and disaster risk management into national and regional development policies

(f) Establishment of technical structures at country and regional levels which are able to integrate scientific and technical data into planning and decision making process

(g) Inclusion of disaster prevention and management into the NEPAD framework

(h) Strengthening conflict prevention mechanisms in Africa

(i) Support from international partners, including through financial assistance, knowledge exchanges and other capacity development resources

(j) Promoting African ownership and anchor for early warning systems development and support initiatives, particularly those driven by external partner inputs.

**5.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

See event 11, EWC-II Recommendations

<p><b>6.1. Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Regional consultation on Early Warning in Europe, Potsdam, Germany, 28-29 July 2003</p>	<p><b>6.2. Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Early Warning</p>
<p><b>6.3. Organizers:</b></p> <p>Geoforschungs Zentrum Potsdam (GFZ), HGF, DKKV</p>	
<p><b>6.4. Participants:</b></p> <p>23 Experts from 10 European Countries, ISDR, UNDP, DKKV, Federal Foreign Office of Germany</p>	
<p><b>6.5. Main outputs:</b></p> <p>Regional Consultation Europe Report for EWC II</p>	
<p><b>6.6. For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/SynthesisOfTheFindingsOfRegCons.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/zschau.ppt">http://www.ewc2.org/upload/downloads/zschau.ppt</a></p>	
<p><b>6.7. General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The different types of problems seen in Europe in the field of early warning were discussed in three working groups during the Regional Consultation. The recommendations developed by these groups are presented here, together with results derived from a previous Forum on Disaster Management in Germany, held in Munich in July 2003. It is recognized that there are a very broad spectrum of issues that are important for Europe. While the individual hazard may be higher or smaller in different countries, it is recommended that action be taken on the European level to assure that channels of communication across borders and within countries are clear, and a common language is used if warnings are to be given. The introduction of different terminologies in different European countries should be avoided. An effort to standardize terminology would be most desirable.</p> <p>Although legislative systems may be quite different in different parts of Europe, the governments have to establish common benchmarks for their actions vis-à-vis legislation on early warning in general. Relevant legislation may already exist, but some countries will have to adapt to new ways of managing early warning. In view of the crucial importance of services such as water supply, power (especially electricity distribution) and transport, it is essential that legislation extend to the suppliers of these services. In the context of increasing</p>	

privatisation in these fields, it is crucial that privatisation arrangements make adequate provision for all the links with risk assessment processes and links with the warning systems in parallel with governmental administrative and emergency services.

On the other hand, privatisation may open up new opportunities; the international links of the British electricity supply companies was mentioned in this context. In most European countries disaster prevention legislation is not very specific, and it attempts to cover all kinds of emergencies. EU regulations also tend to be unspecific, but existing Directives point in the right direction: for example, the increasing establishment of risk maps is to be noted, i.e. flood hazard maps or earthquake maps. For this or similar processes the assistance of the reinsurance industry should be encouraged by the civil society and the governments. (It would be advantageous if the maps prepared by the insurers could also be made available to be used for disaster management).

Legislation for disaster management must allow the adaptation of new technologies and new systems, which will be developed for improving Early Warning capability. For example, early warning systems might be developed using opportunities offered by privatisation of services from the public sector to private industry. However, resistance of existing organisations against changes must be overcome, and new results must be accepted and adapted to local conditions. This is not an easy problem, as is exemplified by the attempts to make administrations and people adjust to new knowledge about volcanism in the region of Naples in Italy.

In further refining the legal basis attention should be focused on ensuring that legislative activities provide equal coverage for different regions in a country - no part of the country should be more privileged or deprived.

A special problem in European countries is that research priorities depend on the priorities set by political bodies in different countries. Improving the financing of research and development of early warning in Europe will require the implementation of cost benefit analyses that show the efficacy of early warning systems and prove the relevance of research for reducing costs or increasing benefits, in particular if projects on trans-national issues are contemplated. For this and all other issues concerning early warning systems the dialogue at various levels and sectors among the stakeholders dealing with all aspects of early warning should be a necessary and integral part of disaster reduction.

#### **6.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

See event 11, EWC-II Recommendations

<p><b>7.1. Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Online Conference to develop Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (ISDR/UNDP), 25 August to 25 September 2003</p>	<p><b>7.2. Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR</p>
<p><b>7.3. Organizers:</b></p> <p>ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p><b>7.4. Participants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nearly 300 people registered to the on-line conference</li> <li>- Approximately fifty of the participants actively contributed to the debate</li> <li>- Participants came from a wide variety of experiences, representing different continents and professional backgrounds.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7.5. Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Summary and synthesis Reports</li> </ul>	
<p><b>7.6. For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/dialogue/">http://www.unisdr.org/dialogue/</a></p>	
<p><b>7.7. General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The usefulness, relevance for stakeholders and timeliness of a framework for disaster risk reduction that can be globally acceptable and adapted at the regional, national, local and institutional level was recognised. The framework as reproduced on the above website met general agreement.</p> <p>Areas of attention to further develop the tool:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. flexibility to accommodate different situations and levels</li> <li>2. clarification of responsibilities and accountabilities not to delay action and results</li> <li>3. keep the framework as a living document to be modified as issues emerge, knowledge expands and capacities change</li> <li>4. in trying to strike the balance between being too comprehensive or too simplistic, a proposed approach could be of a high level summary document with a supporting process and appropriate material to make it meaningful to a broad range of disciplines, sectors and levels</li> <li>5. create ownership and political buy-in</li> </ol>	

6. attract commitment of regional and institutional entities
7. technical refinement with participation of professional, technical and scientific groups
8. ensure sustainability and monitor activities related to the framework over time
9. establish linkages with existing frameworks such as Millennium Development Goals (MDG), NEPAD (New Partnership for Africa's Development), PRSPs (Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers), and UNDAFs (UN Development Assistance Framework)
10. benchmarking and monitoring of progress is a complex issues that will need careful consideration; this implies reflection of the longer-term dimension of disaster risk reduction, quantitative vs qualitative approaches, secure agreed definitions and conceptual model for risk reduction, capture the complexity and multi-dimensional aspect of vulnerability; understanding of long-term benefits of disaster risk reduction programmes

**7.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

None



<p>8.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Safer Sustainable Communities 2003  Australian Disaster Conference (EMA),  Canberra, 10-12 September 2003</p>	<p>8.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR/Communities</p>
<p>8.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Emergency Management Australia (EMA)</p>	
<p>8.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>A total of 750 participants took part, an unprecedented number for an Australian disaster conference, and more than 150 speakers.</p>	
<p>8.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>The Conference provided participants with the opportunity to hear a diverse range of credible and qualified speakers from the fields of emergency management, community safety and sustainable development. The interaction with representatives from an extensive spectrum of disciplines from all parts of Australia and from overseas – including the Pacific Region and New Zealand – and from many community sectors, indicated that a rising focus is emerging on this industry. It was also an opportunity for speakers to present their knowledge and experience to a wide audience.</p>	
<p>8.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.ema.gov.au/">http://www.ema.gov.au/</a></p>	
<p>8.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The key themes raised and discussed at the Conference were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Working with communities  Commit to a community centred approach to emergency management. Show support to facilitators and stakeholders, giving attention to demographic and cultural influences, population growth and to rural areas.</li> <li>2. Security and counter-terrorism  Focus on an ‘all-hazards’ approach with emphasis on Urban Search and Rescue capability to respond to building collapse.</li> </ol>	

3. Critical infrastructure protection  
Build partnerships with private industry and others in a cross-sector view to examine vulnerabilities.
4. Knowledge management  
Grow the knowledge necessary for effective community safety through greater understanding of community resilience and vulnerability.
5. Emergency management volunteers  
Emergency management volunteers are vital. Consider targeted recruitment of volunteers, particularly young people and other non-traditional groups. Provide opportunities for development of personal skills that can be utilised in a paid career.
6. Community education  
Develop a national community education strategy to enable agencies to collaboratively work with communities for a better coordinated approach.
7. International engagement  
Look at the global picture. Work with New Zealand and Pacific region countries to develop national and regional capabilities
8. Environmental issues  
Integrate emergency management and environmental priorities.
9. Risk reduction  
Shift a culture of reaction to a culture of prevention and consider the significant ongoing human, emotional and environmental costs associated with disasters.
10. Leadership and media Attract and develop leaders who will be present with the team, look after people, take a proactive approach to media interaction and build trust amongst all participants.
11. Information management  
Develop more efficient ways to distribute appropriate spatial data to the sector's practitioners and strive for compatibility across jurisdictions.
12. Partnerships  
Develop whole-of-government and whole-of-community partnerships to manage risks, develop strategies to increase the participation of more young people, and work closer with local government.

**8.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

None

<p>9.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Euro-Mediterranean consultations (Council of Europe, Spain, ISDR), Madrid, Spain, 6-8 October 2003</p>	<p>9.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional/Euro-Mediterranean</p>
<p>9.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Council of Europe, Government of Spain, ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p>9.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Member countries of Council of Europe</p>	
<p>9.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>Declaration of Madrid</p>	
<p>9.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/task%20force/tf-meetings/8th%20TF%20mtg/Declaration%20of%20Madrid.pdf">http://www.unisdr.org/eng/task%20force/tf-meetings/8th%20TF%20mtg/Declaration%20of%20Madrid.pdf</a></p>	
<p>9.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Societies in the Euro-Mediterranean region are increasingly vulnerable to natural and other related technological and environmental hazards, whose impact is made more acute by the consequences of demographic, economic and social changes including political tensions, urbanization and developing processes. Disaster reduction is one central element of sustainable development and the associated integrated disaster risk management is a primary responsibility of governments. Such risk management should be based on a holistic approach to risk prevention and reduction combining scientific knowledge, vulnerability assessment and the competencies of disaster managers. The civil society, the private sector, including insurance companies, experts and academia must be fully involved.</p> <p>In pursuit of these goals it is essential that risk management and vulnerability reduction be integrated into planning, education and training, land use planning and management by each country in the region, taking full account of transboundary aspects and in cooperation with the relevant international and regional organizations.</p> <p>Risk evaluation and vulnerability assessment are the essential basis for sound</p>	

national policy and regional cooperation measures. In view of the particular characteristics of the region, technical cooperation between countries of the region is a major tool together with the involvement of citizens, local and regional entities within each country, as well as European and international institutions to support and complement the action of national governments.

Communications are vital not only when disasters strike but to disseminate information to the proper recipients in the prevention phase. New information and communication technology should be put to contribution to establish interactive information systems that are affordable for all countries in the region and useful for both prevention and emergency management, using standardized definitions and glossaries.

It is of strategic importance that risk prevention be considered a component of land use policy, especially with regard to highly populated areas and large cities. To achieve and reinforce this it is necessary to engage in a progressive large-scale effort to generate a culture of disaster prevention in Europe and the Mediterranean through education and information campaigns and programmes.

It is also important that the economic and industrial sector takes initiatives to develop communication and information measures for the benefit of the population taking into account, in the services they provide, risk prevention concerns.

Countries of Europe and the Mediterranean collectively possess a wealth of scientific knowledge and technological innovations, including earth observation and satellite-based applications, that can be harnessed and used to monitor risk, assess vulnerability and reduce the impact of natural and related technological and environmental disasters.

**9.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

It is also proposed to organize a seminar under the auspices the United Nations (ISDR, UN-HABITAT, OCHA, UN/ECE), the European Commission and the Council of Europe EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement on the topic of land use policy and risk prevention focusing on floods, forest fires and industrial risks, to be held in the first half of 2004 and before the Second World Conference on Disaster Reduction (January 2005).

<p>10.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>International Wildland Fire Summit (GFMC), Sydney, Australia, 8 October 2003</p>	<p>10.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Wildlandfires</p>
<p>10.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>New South Wales Minister for Emergency Services (Government of Australia)</p>	
<p>10.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Heads of government agencies within the countries most affected by forest and wildland fires who would be regional representatives</p> <p>United Nations agencies with a mandate in relation to wildland fires and their Impacts and international agencies with the capacity and commitment to assist and NGO representatives with the capacity to influence key outcomes.</p> <p>FAO, ISDR, UNEP, OCHA, WMO, and WHO. Development agencies would include WB, ADB, USAID, CIDA, EU, JICA, GTZ, AusAID, and others. NGOs would include TNC, IUCN, WWF, and others.</p>	
<p>10.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Summit Communique</li> <li>- Summit publication with all documents</li> </ul>	
<p>10.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/summit-2003/introduction.htm">http://www.fire.uni-freiburg.de/summit-2003/introduction.htm</a></p>	
<p>10.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>An agreement that the <i>principles</i> presented in Summit Paper 1 should apply to international wildland fire management projects and exchanges when adapted to local ecological and social conditions.</p> <p>An agreement that an <i>international agreement template</i> presented in Summit Paper 2 can be used by agencies wishing to form a cooperative or mutual aid arrangements with one or more other countries for.</p> <p>An agreement that an <i>Incident Command System (ICS)</i> presented in Summit Paper 3 should become the international standard for all wildland incident management participating in international or interagency agreements and exchanges.</p>	

An agreement to a *strategy for future development* as presented in Summit Paper 4.

Specific Actions by Summit participants:

- Agreement to a series of regional conferences, summits, or roundtables to be held in the next four years.
- Agreement to secure resources and funding for hosting the regional sessions and implementing other Summit outputs.
- Agreement that the Summit outcomes will be transmitted to appropriate international organisations.
- Agreement to request the assistance from the UN to lead the implementation of the outcomes of this strategy.

Follow-up Action

- Establish an interim secretariat to ensure that the Summit outcomes are taken forward.
- Paper # 1 to 4 to be further developed taking into account the comments of the Summit.
- Comments to be provided to the interim secretariat by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2003.
  - Develop a Paper # 5 on Community-Based Fire Management by FAO by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003.

Other Issues and Business Carried Forward

In addition to the actions noted above, a number of other issues were identified that require further attention, possibly at a future Summit.

These issues carried forward include:

- The role of gender in fire management
- Fire danger rating and fire early warning systems
- Linking Incident Command System with community-based fire management systems

**10.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

None

<p><b>11.1 Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Second International Conference on Early Warning (ISDR, Government of Germany), Bonn, Germany, 16-18 October 2003</p>	<p><b>11.2 Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Early Warning</p>
<p><b>11.3 Organizers:</b></p> <p>Federal Government of Germany, DKKV, ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p><b>11.4 Participants:</b></p> <p>Political authorities, experts from organisations engaged in disaster risk management and humanitarian aid, the private sector, as well as the scientific community.</p>	
<p><b>11.5 Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conference Statement</li> <li>- Programme Document: “Effective Early Warning to Reduce Disasters: The Need for More Coherent International Action”</li> <li>- Policy Brief: “Integrating Early Warning into Relevant Policies”</li> </ul>	
<p><b>11.6 For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org">www.unisdr.org</a>  <a href="http://www.ewc2.org">www.ewc2.org</a></p>	
<p><b>11.7 General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The Conference Statement refers to the participants call for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The integration of early warning systems into government policies and requests the organizers to disseminate widely to authorities at all levels the relevant guidelines recommended by the Conference.</li> <li>- Governments and relevant organizations including the private sector to support the implementation of the early warning programme as recommended by the Conference and to integrate the programme into disaster reduction strategies at all levels.</li> <li>- The early warning programme to focus on: (i) integration of early warning into relevant development policies and programmes; (ii) improvement of data collection, facilitating access to relevant data and forecasting; (iii) enhancement</li> </ul>	

of capacities; (iv) people centred warning systems in particular ensuring gender balance and a; (v) platform to sustain the early warning dialogue.

- The ISDR Secretariat to facilitate the implementation of the proposed early warning programme, to sustain the dialogue on early warning and mobilize resources to strengthen partnerships and capacities at all levels.

- The organizers of the Conference to convey its recommendations to the UN General Assembly at its 58<sup>th</sup> session.

#### **11.8 Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

In the Programme Document, Area of focus 5: *Mechanisms for sustaining the early warning dialogue and supporting the development and implementation of a programme*

This focus area calls for actions to strengthen the role and capacities of the UN to support early warning stakeholder needs, particularly the following:

Promoting early warning and its integration into policies in key international forums and programmes, including the Second World Disaster Reduction Conference planned for 2005.



<p>12.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Asian International Conference on Total Disaster Risk Management (OCHA, ADRC, UNDP), Kobe, Japan, 2-4 December 2003</p>	<p>12.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR</p>
<p>12.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>ADRC and OCHA Kobe, supported by ASEAN Foundation, Cabinet Office of Japan, and United Nations University</p>	
<p>12.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Government officials involved in disaster work from 22 nations, representatives from 10 Non Governmental Organizations involved in disaster preparedness and response work in Asia and recourse persons representing a wide range of knowledge and experiences in disaster management field in Asia.</p>	
<p>12.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Proceedings of the International Conference on TDRM 2-4 December 2003</p>	
<p>12.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/TDRM2003Dec/top.htm">http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/TDRM2003Dec/top.htm</a></p>	
<p>12.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The International Conference on Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) was held in Hyogo, Japan on 2 –4 December 2003, with the participation of government officials from 24 countries and representatives from international/local NGOs, international/regional/governmental organizations, UN agencies (ISDR, UNDP, UNESCO, WHO), the private sectors, media, and educational sector including scientific and academic institutions. The aims of the Conference were:</p> <p>a) to promote the TDRM approach among non-traditional yet critical stakeholders and exponents of disaster reduction through developing a strategic understanding of the TDRM approach and how to integrate TDRM into the national planning process and disaster reduction and response systems of the participating countries towards sustainable development,</p> <p>b) to confirm the importance and relevance of TDRM in the pursuit of sustainable development through examples of best practice and current initiatives in the Asian region, including effective disaster risk communication among stakeholders,</p>	

c) to discuss how to promote TDRM approach effectively and also the constraints and challenges ahead in disaster reduction.

Chairperson's summary.

### 1. Concept of TDRM

The concept of the TDRM comprises the following components.

#### a) Risk Management Flow:

The systematic steps involved here are policies on national and local levels to deal with risk, risk identification, risk analysis and evaluation, and implementation of countermeasures.

#### b) Four Phases of Disaster Reduction:

The identified four phases of disaster reduction cycle are prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response, and rehabilitation & reconstruction.

#### c) Implementation Strategies

The implementation strategies include mechanisms for coordination, information sharing, investment for disaster reduction, public awareness and support, and collaboration among stakeholders.

Although the general concept has been outlined, the present challenge is how to implement the TDRM in each country. A practical approach would be to learn from past experiences and adopt the TDRM approach specific to the conditions in each country. In Asia, the following issues are pertinent for the implementation of a comprehensive disaster reduction strategy.

### 2. Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into the National Planning Process

In an integrated disaster risk management approach, activities from structural interventions to community based disaster management (CBDM), which reduces hazard and vulnerability respectively, should be coordinated. The challenge we face now is how to orient development agencies of the need to integrate disaster risk management into the national & local planning process, thus mainstreaming disaster reduction into development.

### 3. Collaboration Among Stakeholders

Collaboration among stakeholders is a critical strategy of the TDRM Approach. It enhances and complements the respective capacities of concerned sectors and organizations in the pursuit of development objectives. The significant involvement of the private sector, business corporations, media, education, and the academia, among others, and their partnership with governments and international organizations, facilitates the promotion of disaster risk reduction initiatives across all sectors of the society and the enhancement of public awareness and understanding of disaster risks.

#### 4. Best Practices Towards Total Disaster Risk Management

In order to ensure the effective application of the TDRM approach, it is essential to learn lessons from the best practices around us both nationally as well as internationally.

Highlighting such practices are vital for making decisions that involve prime decision makers including politicians, financial administrators, planners in the national coordinating body in every country to emphasize the “culture of prevention” for disaster reduction and sustainable development of the society.

#### 5. Transform Current Disaster Reduction Initiatives into Best Practices

It is important to incorporate the current initiatives on disaster reduction in implementing the TDRM approach. Current important initiatives include:

- Socio-economic impact methodology for disaster impact evaluation,
- Climate forecast and climate risk management approaches,
- GLIDE - Global disaster IDentifier number initiative for the sharing of methodological information on disasters,
- SUMA - SUPply MANAGEMENT system for strengthening and effectively coordinating the emergency supply management system in every country,
- Sharing region specific disaster reduction experiences.

These initiatives should be integrated into the elements of the TDRM approach to disaster reduction as a tool to strengthen the process of sustainable development.

#### 12.8. **Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

The challenge is to reduce the negative impact from disasters and to transform disaster reduction into a vital tool for sustainable development and for achieving Millennium Development Goals. The international conference on TDRM contributed to the preparatory process towards the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, to be held in 2005, which will aim to enhance the political commitment and investment for all who are involved in the task of reducing risk and vulnerability.

The major challenge ahead is to recognize the TDRM approach as an effective tool of disaster reduction and integrate this approach in each country keeping in view of specific context, needs, and conditions. This will hopefully help in achieving the transition from a phase of commitment to one of implementation in a paradigm of dealing with total risk. If we can mobilize the power of humanity to protect its hard earned development gains surely and confidently we will move towards sustainable development and a better and safer FUTURE.

<p>13.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, topic includes Risk Reduction (IFRC), Geneva, 2-5 December 2003</p>	<p>13.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR/Community</p>
<p>13.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies International Committee of the Red Cross</p>	
<p>13.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>181 National Societies, their International Federation, the ICRC and 191 States</p>	
<p>13.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Declaration</li> <li>- Agenda for Humanitarian Action</li> </ul>	
<p>13.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/html/conf28?OpenDocument">http://www.icrc.org/Web/Eng/siteeng0.nsf/html/conf28?OpenDocument</a></p>	
<p>13.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>General objective 3 – Minimize the impact of disasters through implementation of disaster risk reduction measures and improving preparedness and response mechanisms</p> <p>The aim is to protect human dignity, lives and livelihoods from the devastating impact of disasters, by fully integrating disaster risk reduction into national and international planning and policy instruments and implementing appropriate operational measures to reduce risks, and by implementing appropriate legal, policy and operational measures to facilitate and expedite effective responses to disasters, in order to reduce the risks and effects of disasters on marginalized and vulnerable populations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Goal 3.1 – Acknowledge the importance of disaster risk reduction and undertake measures to minimize the impact of disasters on vulnerable populations. Comprehensive disaster risk reduction, including disaster management, prevention and mitigation can be achieved through education and awareness-raising activities. Other measures to minimize the impact of disasters include: effective management of natural resources and protection of the environment; the implementation of early warning systems; ensuring that</li> </ul>	

building codes, particularly in disaster prone countries, are implemented and enforced to limit suffering caused by structural damage; supporting sustainable recovery; and optimizing capacity building opportunities for vulnerable populations. Of particular importance is directing such efforts towards populations that are most at risk, including those marginalized because of poverty, discrimination or social exclusion, or those that do not have access to disaster preparedness and response services as a consequence of their circumstances or legal status.

#### Actions proposed

3.1.1 States should, in accordance with the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, review their existing legislation and policies to fully integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into all relevant legal, policy and planning instruments in order to address the social, economic, political and environmental dimensions that influence vulnerability to disasters.

3.1.2 State authorities should take appropriate operational measures to reduce disaster risks at the local and national levels, including sustainable natural resource, environmental and land-use management, appropriate urban planning, and enforced building codes. States should, in cooperation with National Societies and other concerned agencies, implement disaster risk awareness programmes, public education programmes, early-warning systems, contingency planning, disaster management training and other mitigation and preparedness measures, based on risk, vulnerability and capacity assessments.

3.1.3 States, in cooperation with National Societies, are urged to incorporate risk reduction as a central feature in national development plans, poverty reduction strategies and post-disaster recovery plans, be it on their own territory or through their development and cooperation assistance in a bilateral, multilateral or regional context, with a special emphasis on reducing the vulnerability of populations in hazard-prone areas or otherwise at risk owing to poverty, marginalization, social exclusion or discrimination.

3.1.4 States are strongly encouraged to prioritize and provide resources to implement comprehensive disaster risk reduction measures, including measures to address issues relating to climate change and variability. National Societies will increase their cooperation with States and experts in the area of climate change in order to limit the potential negative impact on vulnerable populations. In so doing, they may draw on the recommendations outlined in the report “Preparedness for climate change” as requested by the Plan of Action of the 27th International Conference in 1999.

3.1.5 States, recognizing the importance of the independent and auxiliary role of National Societies with respect to the public authorities in providing humanitarian services in the field of disaster management should negotiate

clearly defined roles and responsibilities with their respective National Societies in risk reduction and disaster management activities. This may include National Society representation on relevant national policy and coordination bodies as collaborative partners with States. States should also take specific legal and policy measures to support and assist National Societies in building sustainable volunteer and community capacity, particularly promoting the participation of women, in the areas of risk reduction and disaster management.

3.1.6 The components of the Movement, in cooperation with States, will prioritize and scale up efforts to build sustainable capacity and improve performance in the area of disaster risk reduction, including disaster management, awareness raising and advocacy activities at the local, national and regional levels. This will include an emphasis on building effective and inclusive partnerships with populations that live in hazard-prone areas or are otherwise vulnerable owing to poverty, marginalization, social exclusion or other forms of discrimination and will involve all relevant partners.

3.1.7 The International Federation will support the efforts of National Societies to strengthen their capacity in the field of disaster risk reduction through continued knowledge sharing on best practices, resource mobilization and advocacy on disaster risk reduction issues with States and other relevant international, regional and national actors, including with the private sector.

**13.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

None

<p>14.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Forum Mitch+ 5 (CEPREDENAC, UNDP, COPECO), Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 9-11 December 2003</p>	<p>14.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR</p>
<p>14.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>CEPREDENAC, UNDP, COPECO, UN-ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p>14.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Governmental representatives from CEPREDENAC member countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras), representatives from other countries (Cuba, Mexico, USA), regional organizations, cooperation agencies, organizations of civil society, and UN agencies</p>	
<p>14.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tegucigalpa Declaration</li> <li>- Reports on conclusions, recommendations and goals of three thematic components</li> </ul>	
<p>14.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.cepredenac.org">www.cepredenac.org</a> (under Foro Mitch + 5, Relatorías)</p>	
<p>14.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The Tegucigalpa Declaration includes the following recommendations towards reducing disaster risk in the region:</p> <p>Augment efforts to promote the adoption of policies, strategies and mechanisms needed for the effective incorporation of risk analysis and risk management as key requirements in the planning of all public and private developments projects and activities.</p> <p>In order to achieve that, it is critical that national systems for public investment as well as international financing organizations request risk analysis as part of the criteria to assess project submitted to their consideration. Following, these organizations should give priority to those activities and projects for risk reduction that are coherent with the existing high levels of vulnerabilities.</p> <p>Augment efforts aiming at strengthening institutions responsible for disaster prevention, mitigation and response, with a holistic, intersectorial and</p>	

participatory approach, through a revision of the legal frameworks and by making available the necessary human and financial resources for their functioning.

Underline the importance of strengthening the accountability and control mechanisms for the activities developed by the different stakeholders in the field of risk management, with a view of gaining transparency and appropriate use of resources, and defining clear responsibilities for those that generate risks.

Adopt the necessary measures to ensure a higher participation of the organizations of civil society in integral risk management; and in particular to improve the social control over these activities

Encourage the utilization of land use planning processes as preventive instruments to limit the generation of new risks and reduce existing ones. Also encouraged is the fostering of decentralization at local level, ensuring the transfer of competencies and resources for risk management.

Recommend that all national governments formulate, update and adopt state policies and strategic plans during 2004, departing from national analysis and the conclusions and recommendations generated in the Forum Mitch +5.

It is necessary to update the Strategic Framework for Vulnerability Reduction of Natural Disasters in Central America, following the conclusions, recommendations and goals produced in Forum Mitch+5, and to promote its official adoption by the "Meeting of Central American Presidents."

Ask Central American countries, regional organizations, cooperation agencies, organizations of civil society and international organizations for a stronger commitment and support to CEPREDENAC

**14.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

Request to government of regions to take in consideration the outputs of Forum Mitch+5 in the preparatory process and deliberations that will take place in the WCDR in Kobe-Hyogo, 2005, in order to present a unified Central American vision on disaster risk management.



<p>15.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Inter-regional preparatory meeting for SIDS BPoA + 10 (UN/DESA) Bahamas, 26-30 January 2004</p>	<p>15.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Intergovernmental/SIDS</p>
<p>15.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)</p>	
<p>15.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Senior officials from the United Nations Secretary-General of the Mauritius International Meeting High Representative for Least Developed Countries Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States</p>	
<p>15.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nassau Declaration</li> <li>- AOSIS Strategy Paper</li> </ul>	
<p>15.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.sidsnet.org/index.html">http://www.sidsnet.org/index.html</a></p>	
<p>15.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The AOSIS Strategy document (Bahamas Prepcom version) notes:</p> <p>Natural and Environmental Disasters</p> <p>19. SIDS being located among the most vulnerable regions in the world to the increasing intensity and frequency of natural and environmental disasters, face disproportionately high economic, social and environmental consequences. The following action is therefore required:</p> <p>a) The international community must strengthen the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) as a dedicated facility to address national disaster mitigation, preparedness and early-warning capacity, and the mainstreaming of risk management into the national planning process.</p> <p>c) An easily accessible international fund, to be disbursed through regional and national structures, must be established by 2005.</p>	

d) The SIDS undertake to strengthen their respective national frameworks for more effective disaster management.

Implementation

78. j) Develop SIDS-SIDS cooperation to explore option for insurance and reinsurance in the context of risk management and disaster recovery;

Access to financial resources

83. International community to support the establishment of trust funds and investment facilities for SIDS particularly in the area of natural disasters;

Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise

16. The adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise continue to threaten the sustainable development, livelihoods and existence of SIDS. The failure of most industrialized countries to reduce domestic greenhouse gas emissions means that the vulnerability of SIDS will be increased and that adaptation to climate change continues to be a major priority for SIDS.

**15.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

The AOSIS Strategy document (Bahamas Prepcom version) notes:

19.

b) The international community must use opportunities such as the 10-year review of the Yokohama Strategy on Natural Disaster Reduction in 2005 to address the specific issues of SIDS including the possibility to put in place appropriate insurance and re-insurance arrangements for SIDS as they relate to natural and environmental disasters.

<p>16.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Third Asian consultation (Government of Cambodia and Japan, ADRC, ISDR), Cambodia, 4-6 February 2004</p>	<p>16.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional/Asia</p>
<p>16.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Governments of Cambodia and Japan, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p>16.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>More than 130 people including high dignitaries and officials from Cambodia and 22 other countries, mainly from Asia, along with representatives of various UN agencies and international/regional organizations</p>	
<p>16.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Chair Summary</p>	
<p>16.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/Asian_Conference_2004/index.html">http://www.adrc.or.jp/publications/Asian_Conference_2004/index.html</a></p>	
<p>16.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>1. Challenges for Disaster Reduction in Asia in the 21st Century Based on the deliberations of the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2003 held in Kobe, Japan on 15-17 January 2003, it was agreed that while Asia as a region has made progress in reducing the impact of disasters, we still face major challenges which all the countries in the region need to reflect upon and address.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Urban vulnerability and disasters.</li> <li>2) Adaptation to climate change</li> <li>3) Multi-disciplinary and inter-sectoral cooperation to address emerging challenges</li> <li>4) Enhancement of information management capacity</li> </ol> <p>2. Recommendations of the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2004 The conference emphasized that the important challenges we face today concern finding effective ways to translate disaster risk reduction concepts into practice, mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into national development plans and policies, institutionalising disaster risk reduction programmes at the community</p>	

level, and filling in any existing gaps in the disaster reduction cycle. Concrete measures, tools and mechanisms need to be improved to achieve this aim. Conceptual frameworks need to yield specific programmes of action focused on people and the actual needs of the community.

In this connection, the Government of Japan expressed its readiness to support and facilitate the development of meaningful and productive international cooperation in the field of disaster reduction through activities such as receiving trainees, dispatching experts, and assisting disaster reduction programmes, among others.

In order to be able to respond to the emerging issues, concerns and challenges and to address them adequately and effectively, the conference agreed that the following actions are important.

- 1) Comprehensive review of national disaster management situation
- 2) Evolution of national policies for disaster reduction
- 3) Investment in disaster reduction
- 4) Communication and information management
- 5) Enhancement of partnerships

#### **16.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

This conference is part of a series of international and regional events serving as preparatory consultations for the World Conference on Disaster Reduction to be held in Hyogo, Japan in 2005. The World Conference is expected to mark a major milestone of global efforts towards a safer world. In this sense, this event provided a unique platform to identify challenges and concrete future action to mitigate the negative impact of disasters in our region and one important contribution to the World Conference. The Conference paid tribute to the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Cambodia for their generous hosting of this important event.

<p>17.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Sustainable Community Empowerment for Disaster Management organized (UNCRD), Kobe-Hyogo, Japan, 6-7 February 2004</p>	<p>17.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR/Community</p>
<p>17.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>United Nations Centre for Regional Development, Disaster Management Hyogo Office (UNCRD)</p>	
<p>17.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Approximately 200 people from 17 different countries attended the event, including the Minister of Disaster Management of Bangladesh, Cabinet Officer from the Government of Japan, a representative from United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN ISDR) and the director of UNCRD. Presentations were made by experts from African, Asian, and Latin American regions.</p>	
<p>17.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Symposium Proceedings</li> <li>- Guidelines and Tools for Sustainability in Community Based Disaster management</li> </ul>	
<p>17.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.hyogo.uncrd.or.jp">http://www.hyogo.uncrd.or.jp</a></p>	
<p>17.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The overall finding at the symposium shed light on <u>strengthening local communities</u> and recognising their importance: how to assist in their task of reducing disaster risks within these communities through CBDM process. Given this context, below are some of the specific ideas and lessons, raised at the symposium, bolstering this main finding in promoting CBDM and reinforcing the concept to be echoed throughout and beyond the WCDR.</p> <p>Strengthen Capacity</p> <p>There is a particular importance of creating a process in disaster management where people living in a community can participate. The process must be framed in such a way that it would allow for community people to relate to the</p>	

process and raise their awareness of disaster management. The process of CBDM must be dynamic so that people would feel motivated to participate and get involved. Communities need to strengthen their capacity for motivation so that they can plan the activities that should be carried out to achieve the desired solutions.

### Beyond Survival

All communities find ways to cope when they experience disasters. They develop local coping mechanisms so that they may continue to survive. Nonetheless, some communities, all they can do, is to barely survive. In fact, communities must advance forward in disaster management so that they can leap beyond simple survival. The form of disaster management should be so that community coping mechanism will be far-reaching, a strategy that will add to their development.

### Risk Reduction

There is a need for a paradigm shift in disaster management: from relief to risk reduction. Much more effort is required to reduce risk at an early stage to prevent disasters than increasing relief activities after disasters have occurred. For communities to be able to build forward in development, more investments in risk reduction efforts are heavily needed. There is a need for much better response to risk reduction as opposed to relief; and this is much related to the concept of sustainability in CBMD that is being sought after by numerous CBDM constituents. Hence, continuous efforts on preparedness and community mobilisation need further attention.

### Mutual Support

One of the strengths in CBDM lies in the concept of mutual support that can be instigated, continued, and built upon by communities. Integration of community members in helping each other during time of need, collective care and ownership builds on the sense of support when disasters hit. Such concept lies at the fundamental source of CBDM and is nurtured in various ways, according to cultures and tradition in any given nation.

### Policy and Implementation

More efforts are needed in closing the gap between policy and implementation. Often bureaucracy surrounding institutional actions at all levels can hinder some of the best outcomes in disaster management achievements. There is a need to pursue and dwell on closing such gaps so that communities and policies in the context of disaster management may merge and be integrated to achieve synergy, allowing for the creating of safer communities.

### Disaster Resilient Communities

Through the promotion of CBDM, it is important to emphasise the concept of disaster resilient communities, which are flexible and elastic. Resilient communities come in many shapes and forms, but often characterised by communities with “collective security” through structural and non-structural means. Resilient communities are flexible, hence, have elements of quick recovery so that they can bounce back from the traumatic experience of disasters.

#### 17.8. **Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

##### Partnership-Building in CBDM

The International Symposium became an opportunity to build consensus amongst various disaster management constituents who, especially, consider CBDM as one of the leading methodologies in promoting safer society from natural disasters. This symposium not only became a value adding event to further CBDM but also a knowledge sharing opportunity. It is hoped that knowledge and spirit augmented through this symposium would be further carried to the WCDR by all the constituents in CBDM. Furthermore, it is anticipated that such dissemination would occur in unison through partnership that is built over time.

<p>18.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Third Regional Meeting: Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Management into Development Practice in Asia, 24-25 February 2004, Makati City (Manila), Philippines</p>	<p>18.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR/Funding</p>
<p>18.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>ADPC, WHO-EHA</p>	
<p>18.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Organizations represented included ADB, ADPC, ADRC, ADRU-OCHA, ACDM, ASEAN, IDRM, ISDR, UNDP, UN-HABITAT, UNICEF-EAPRO, USAID/OFDA, WHO-EHA, and Philippines Dept of Health.</p>	
<p>18.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Summary</li> <li>- Final report</li> </ul>	
<p>18.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p>Reid Basher, ISDR Secretariat, <a href="mailto:reid.basher@un.org">reid.basher@un.org</a></p>	
<p>18.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The breakouts and discussion on mainstreaming was informative but did not result in any plans or commitments. Most of the organizations are already involved in project activities that are in effect mainstreaming of DRR, but which are far from the required level of institutionalization needed in the development community.</p> <p>The meeting considered its future. Especially in the light of so many other closely related meetings? There seemed to be agreement that it served a useful clearinghouse forum function, but that future meetings should have a strong focus on a specific selected topic. The next meeting would be organized by UNDP and is likely to focus on national planning/economics concerns, with invited leaders from these fields.</p>	
<p>18.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>The WCDR was a major feature of the program, and there were many</p>	



questions following my presentation. An important question was how groups can start getting involved – by what process. It was agreed that some sort of session input from Asia should be provided, under the leadership of the Asia Partnership. There were strongly voiced views that countries needed support and guidance if they were to be able to provide good national reports for the Conference.

<p>19.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Thirty-first session WMO/ESCAP Panel on Tropical Cyclones, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 1-6 March 2004</p>	<p>19.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Early Warning/Tropical cyclones</p>
<p>19.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>World Meteorological Organization (WMO) United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia (UNESCAP)</p>	
<p>19.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Representatives of seven of the eight Member countries of the Panel (Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Oman, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand)</p> <p>Representatives from WMO, UNESCAP and TSU</p> <p>Observers from China, Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)-Kharagpur, ISDR Secretariat, Saudi Arabia.</p>	
<p>19.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Final Report</p>	
<p>19.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.wmo.ch/index-en.html">http://www.wmo.ch/index-en.html</a></p>	
<p>19.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Based on the experience of the establishment of National Committees for International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR), the Panel expressed the need of mobilizing political commitment on possible establishment of a national platform for disaster reduction. The ISDR observer replied that there is need to re-identify or strengthen the existing bodies because some of the national committees became idle or stopped functioning. It was also noted that new nations, which became independent within a decade might not have designated a national committee. The Panel expected a new national platform would focus on disaster risk management.</p>	
<p>19.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>It is expected that the Panel would provide value-added information on review activities since the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction held in</p>	

Yokohama, Japan in 1994. It should include achievements, shortcomings, and recommendations. Such outputs from the Panel are expected to be coordinated with other regional activities. The Panel felt the need for high-level participation from countries for effective implementation of outcomes of WCDR.

With respect to possible participation in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (WCDR) in Kobe in 2005, the Panel suggested to highlight the regional experiences on the implementation of the DPP components and the importance to mobilize commitment of all key stakeholders, especially the political, technical and financing parties, to the implementation mechanism on DPP.

In this connection, the Panel identified the opportunity to link this subject to the ongoing efforts of ISDR regarding the platform on early warnings. The Panel also discussed the need to ensure substantial achievements on capacity building and suggested to identify clear priority of the training focus so as to facilitate mobilization of support to the work of the Panel at the WCDR. The Panel urged ISDR Secretariat to assist in mobilizing financial resources to enable the Panel to prepare relevant documents for the WCDR, especially the one on the platform for early warning and that on storm surge.

<p>20.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>EUR-OPA (Council of Europe), Rabat, Morocco, 11-13 March 2004</p>	<p>20.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR</p>
<p>20.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Council of Europe</p>	
<p>20.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Member countries of Council of Europe, ISDR Secretariat, UNESCO</p>	
<p>20.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement</li> <li>- Rabat Declaration</li> </ul>	
<p>20.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p>Council of Europe, Mrs. Francoise Tondre</p>	
<p>20.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The representatives of the member states of the Agreement agree to give priority to co-operation programmes on the following themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research programme relating to earthquake risk management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-comparative analysis of anti-seismic regulations;</li> <li>-evaluation of damage following an earthquake;</li> <li>-classification and evaluation of the vulnerability of public buildings, particularly schools and hospitals.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Comparative analysis of risk management legislation. In this context, it is recommended that the study begun be continued and that priority be given to the importance of the inter-ministerial and inter-departmental approach to risk management.</li> <li>3. Environmental security: the issue of hazardous waste management was considered, with particular attention being given to strengthening the capacity to control cross-border movements of waste and to prevent illicit transport. Hazardous waste does represent a major public health hazard and entail a considerable risk of damage to the environment, particularly to water resources. This proposal is in the spirit of the Basle Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal and the</li> </ol>	

related Directives of the European Union.

4. Industrial security: plan to set up a body of inspectors to monitor and follow-up the state of the environment and industrial security, on the basis of a pilot project in Morocco which might be extended to all the Mediterranean countries interested (Bucharest seminar).

5. An effort to achieve synergy between European and international institutions in the implementation of risk management co-operation programmes. Appropriate instructions have been given to Prefect Michel Sappin, former President of the Agreement.

6. The raising of risk prevention awareness among children of school age, on the basis of pilot projects such as those begun in Casablanca, in the department of Seine Saint-Denis, and elsewhere, as well as the creation of a multilingual web site to provide children with information in this field.

After thanking the Moroccan authorities for their hospitality, participants instructed the Executive Secretariat of the Council of Europe's EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement to draw the present Declaration to the attention of the international institutions concerned and of the international community as a whole.

**20.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

The Committee expressed support for the initiatives taken relating to the raising of risk prevention awareness among children of school age: the plan to set up a Euro-Mediterranean network of towns and cities, departments and regions which might provide a basis for a network with a view to the presentation of the results at the ISDR conference to be held in Kobe in 2005 (Seine-Saint-Denis and Casablanca projects, etc). It took note with interest of the activities taking place within the framework of the National Observatory of Children's Rights, of which Princess Lalla Mereym was President, particularly leading to awareness-raising initiatives relating to risk prevention, especially in Casablanca, and to projects relating to the issues of children's rights and humanitarian security.

The Committee expressed a wish that the contribution of the Agreement to the ISDR Conference in Kobe in 2005 be defined at the next meeting of the Committee.

<p>21.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Risk Management and a Sustainable Development Factor on Human Scale- Ibero-America Civil Protection (ONEMI, Chile) Santiago, Chile, 24-26 March 04</p>	<p>21.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR</p>
<p>21.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Ibero- American Association of governmental organisms of Civil Defence and Civil Protection</p>	
<p>21.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Representatives of Civil Defence and Civil Protection offices from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Uruguay and Venezuela.</p>	
<p>21.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>- Letter of intent</p>	
<p>21.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.eird.org">www.eird.org</a></p>	
<p>21.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>To liase with the ISDR Secretariat in order to provide feedback from the perspective of the Association's member to the Spanish version of Living with Risk.</p>	
<p>21.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>To undertake the appropriate actions before the UN-ISDR Secretariat in order to participate in the Kobe Conference, as well as be engaged and in its preparatory process.</p> <p>Prepare a document in consultation with its members outlining the scope of involvement of the Association in relation to the objectives of the Kobe Conference.</p>	

<p>22.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Global Disaster Information Network Conference (GDIN), Washington DC, USA, 26-29 March 2004</p>	<p>22.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/DRR/Information Management</p>
<p>22.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>GDIN</p>	
<p>22.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>208 participants from 57 countries Academia (10%), Government (40%), International organizations (12%), NGOs (12%), industry (6%) and others (20%)</p>	
<p>22.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>Final document is to be published</p>	
<p>22.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.gdin.org/">http://www.gdin.org/</a></p>	
<p>22.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Final document is to be published</p>	
<p>22.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>Participants in GDIN2004 recommended, and the GDIN Executive Committee agreed to pursue actively, inclusion in the World Conference of a session stream sponsored by GDIN and to seek to send a delegation as an NGO.</p>	

<p>23.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>ADPC Regional Consultative Committee on Disaster Management Dhaka, Bangladesh 29-31 March, 2004</p>	<p>23.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional/Asia</p>
<p>23.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)</p>	
<p>23.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Altogether 18 delegates from 15 RCC member countries comprising heads of NDMOs from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Iran, Jordan, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, and Ambassadors and senior officials from Embassies of Myanmar and Philippines together with 24 observers consisting of ADPC partners and representatives from regional organizations, UN Agencies, and bilateral and multilateral funding agencies: ADRC, ARC, AusAID, BRCS, CARE, CDMP, ICIMOD, EWC, MFESB, MRC, SIDA, UNDP, UNESCAP, UN-ISDR, UN-Habitat USAID/OFDA, WFP and senior officials from the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh attended the meeting.</p>	
<p>23.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>Meeting Report</p>	
<p>23.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.adpc.net">http://www.adpc.net</a></p>	
<p>23.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Among key outcomes of the Meeting were the recognition of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the importance of political will and commitment to support disaster risk management initiatives and programmes.</li> <li>▪ the importance of enhancing the role and activities of the national disaster management agencies.</li> </ul>	
<p>23.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>In relation to the WCDR, break-out discussions focused on i) the constraints faced by the various countries for effective disaster risk management in their</p>	



respective countries; ii) processes for National Reporting and Information for WCDR; and iii) the priorities that needs to be addressed at the WCDR.

Reporting on constraints for effective risk management, countries identified lack of financial and technical resources, the difficulties in involving other agencies in work of disaster risk management and the consequent need for synergies between agencies and a coordinating role, the need for increased information exchange and communication, the need for the enforcement and effective implementation of policies, political commitment, training and increased awareness of risks and vulnerability amongst decision makers as well as the populations at risk, and the lack of effective disaster risk assessment. They also identified the need to integrate disaster risk management with poverty reduction and the raising of the awareness of risk management to the current level of the integration and awareness of gender issues.

The need for technical assistance in disaster risk management, the use of technology and knowledge networks, increased access to information and regional cooperation and sharing of good practices among developing countries facing similar constraints.

The RCC Members were pleased to learn of requests for National Information inputs in preparation for WCDR, but some were yet to receive formal requests and sought more direct communication with national focal points.

The list of priorities that the RCC Members recommended to be addressed at the WCDR included the provision of technical and financial assistance; increased linkages with and coordination between the different UN-agencies, non-government organizations, private organizations, Local Government Units and the community. The RCC members also highlighted the need for capacity building by the provision of skilled and trained technical expertise and the need for effective advocacy including the integration of disaster risk management into the school curriculum. Calls were also made to mainstream disaster risk management as an integral part of development processes, to formulate performance indicators to measure the success of disaster risk management programmes and that climate change concerns should be integrated in disaster risk management.

<p>24.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Latin American Meeting on Health Risk Reduction, Nicaragua, 21 - 23 April 2004</p>	<p>24.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic/Latin America/Health</p>
<p>24.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)</p>	
<p>24.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>More than 100 policy makers, country representatives and experts with broad experience in mitigation in health facilities from 18 Latin-American countries and international institutions</p>	
<p>24.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>Recommendations on Health and Disaster Reduction for the WCDR</p>	
<p>24.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.paho.org/">http:// www.paho.org/</a></p>	
<p>24.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>As a result of that conference organized in the framework of the Kobe Conference, the participants identified the following main health goals for its adoption in the Second World Conference on Disaster Reduction.</p>	
<p>24.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>Health Goals Proposal for the Second World Conference on Disaster Reduction:</p> <p><b>Goal No. 1 Ensure disaster risk reduction is a national policy with a strong organizational basis</b></p> <p>By 2010, health and drinking water sectors develop specific national policies and regulations to ensure that all new health infrastructures continue functioning in case of disasters.</p> <p>By 2010, rector and regulating institutions in water and sanitation sector develop a legal framework to include risk reduction and risk transfer.</p> <p>By 2010, the countries have control mechanisms available to ensure the inclusion of risk reduction measures at all levels in the health infrastructure</p>	

projects cycle (health facilities, drinking water systems, sanitation and others).

By 2010, health and drinking water institutions have an entity responsible for risk management and disaster preparedness.

By 2015, vulnerability reduction and disaster preparedness are included in the processes of certification and licensing of health services.

By 2015, health and water and sanitation sector participate in national and regional risk management platforms.

### **Goal No. 2 Identify and monitor risks**

By 2010, risk analysis is included in environmental impact studies for health facilities, drinking water and sanitation projects.

By 2015, all priority health facilities carry out vulnerability, design and implementation of risk reduction studies.

By 2015, all essential areas in new hospitals will be built taking into account risk management measures to ensure their continued functioning in disasters.

### **Goal No. 3 Use information and education to build a culture of prevention**

By 2010, all countries have risk management programs y disaster preparedness in the health and water and sanitation sector.

By 2010, cost analysis and resource assignment for risk management are included in all pre-investment projects for health facilities and drinking water systems.

By 2010, universities include risk management, disaster preparedness and response in the curricula of health and the environment related faculties and promote research in these fields.

By 2015, counties have units for access and dissemination of technical-scientific information on risk management and disaster preparedness for health and drinking water sector.

### **Goal No. 4 Lower the underlying risk factors**

By 2010, 100% of essential health facilities (hospitals and drinking water systems) execute risk reduction activities.

By 2010, at least 50% of all health facilities located in vulnerable zones reduce

their functional vulnerability.

By 2015, at least 75% of all hospitals in disaster-prone areas include the reduction of their physical vulnerability in their regular maintenance.

By 2015, there is an increase of at least 50% in the number of emergency services of existing hospitals that continue working after a disaster.

**Goal No. 5 Strengthen disaster preparedness and contingency planning**

By 2010, 100% of countries have national response plans for health and drinking water.

By 2015, all countries have trained personnel and essential resources to face the impact of disasters in health and drinking water systems.

By 2015, 100% of health services networks have socialized contingency plans.

By 2015, 50% of drinking water and sanitation agencies have up-to-date contingency plans.

**Goal No. 6 Sustain international support for disaster reduction efforts at national and local levels**

By 2015, WHO and its regional and country offices assign specific budget for technical cooperation in disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness in health and water and sanitation systems.

By 2010, all international financing agencies demand the inclusion of disaster risk analysis in the health infrastructure and drinking water financing projects.

<p>25.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>International Conference on Disaster Reduction, Beijing, People’s Republic of China, 25-27 May, 2004.</p>	<p>25.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional</p>
<p>25.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>Government of China, ISDR Secretariat</p>	
<p>25.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Representatives from more than 100 delegates from 18 countries and six (6) international organizations (Armenia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Dem.</p>	

<p>Peoples Rep. of Korea, Iran, Japan, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Rep. of Korea, Russia, Singapore, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam (with USA observer). Organizations: ADPC, ADRC, IFRC in China, UNICEF in China, UN/ISDR, WFP in China.</p>
<p><b>25.5. Main outputs:</b></p> <p>Beijing Declaration on the 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction, 27 May 2004.</p>
<p><b>25.6. For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p>Director General, Department of Disaster Relief and Management, China National Committee on Disaster Reduction, Ministry of Civil Affairs, Beijing, China. <a href="mailto:wzhy@mca.gov.cn">wzhy@mca.gov.cn</a></p>
<p><b>25.7. General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p><b>From Beijing Declaration:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Governance: Institutional Policy &amp; Framework</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Increase national political commitment to the integration of disaster risk reduction in sustainable development planning and practice</b> by formulating a holistic policy and comprehensive legislation on disaster and risk management, integrating risk reduction in various sectoral policies, and allocating funds for disaster risk reduction at regional, national and local levels.</li> <li>• <b>Enhance the role of Local Government authorities and community leaders in the implementation of national policies and legislation on disaster risk reduction at community level</b> by increasing the comprehension, knowledge and capability of Local Government officials in disaster risk reduction.</li> <li>• <b>Enhance the capacity of Local Government authorities, with support from national dedicated agencies, to plan and finance a safer built environment</b> by making land, materials, training and labour available for shelter and urban development.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. <i>Risk Identification, Assessment &amp; Early Warning</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Encourage the development of an information baseline including hazard mapping and risk assessment in urban and rural settings, to strengthen risk monitoring through joint efforts by experts from the scientific community and</b></li> </ul> </li> </ol>

**people from communities living with disaster risks** by exchanging information, good practices, knowledge and relevant experience at regional, national and local levels, and establishing mechanisms for disaster risk monitoring and risk assessment in the framework of the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)

- **Improve early warning systems and ensure their effectiveness for disaster reduction** by providing support to capacity building and the enhancement of links between policy makers, experts and the public.
- **Encourage line Ministries and agencies, Government at different levels and civil societies to mainstream disaster risk management** by supporting cross-sectoral programme design and implementation of practical activities in development strategies.

### 3. *Knowledge & Education*

- **Increase the awareness of public authorities and the general public on disaster reduction from national to local levels** by carrying out specific activities in schools and other formal and informal education and training facilities, with particular attention to a gender-balanced approach and other pertinent cultural impacts.
- **Encourage the active involvement of electronic and other media, educational institutions and communities in the campaign for raising awareness of disaster risk reduction** by supporting capacity building and training institutions, providing platform and mechanisms for sharing information, knowledge and experience, and emphasizing local experience and traditional knowledge.
- **Improve the relationship between and application of experiences** by increasing the understanding of data collection and information and knowledge management.

### 4. *Reduction of Underlying Risk Factors*

- **Improve appropriate scientific ability on disaster risk reduction at regional and national levels** by encouraging the establishment of a regional platform for knowledge sharing, and the translation of scientific data into practical guidance for Local Government authorities and community groups.
- **Encourage the application of high technology, e.g. remote sensing and GIS (Geographical Information System), in disaster risk assessment and monitoring** by providing support to pilot projects and initiatives on disaster risk

mitigation.

- **Encourage the adoption of disaster impact assessment systems and financial instruments and mechanisms such as insurance to share risks, particularly at local level** by sharing existing practices and experience.

5. *Disaster Preparedness & Contingency Planning*

- **Increase the effectiveness of disaster response, relief and recovery** by using disaster risk assessment results, based on hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment in disaster preparedness and emergency contingency planning, and by preventing disaster recovery programmes from creating new disaster risks.
- **Give special attention to the social, cultural and economic needs of women, children and most disadvantaged groups in disaster and risk management** by using participatory tools such as vulnerability and capability assessments.
- **Increase the efficiency of disaster response, relief and recovery through improved early warning systems** by increasing the appreciation of early warning among policy and decision makers, the accuracy of early warning by scientists, and the comprehension of people living with disaster risks at community level.
- **Enhance the efficiency of emergency/disaster management within countries** by having a united management system to reduce duplication and wastage of efforts and resources.

6. *Regional, International Support for Disaster Reduction at National and Local Levels*

- **Strengthen cooperation and collaboration in disaster reduction at regional level** by using existing platforms for continuing dialogue and consultations among countries concerned, and encouraging exchange of knowledge and experts leading to closer partnerships in disaster risk reduction
- **Enhance international and regional support to National Governments in disaster reduction** by facilitating the exchange of knowledge and information on disaster issues, and developing concrete initiatives and projects yielding ready-to-use outputs for advancing disaster risk reduction at national and community levels.
- **Strengthen the financial base for disaster risk reduction**

**activities and investment** by encouraging international agencies and organizations as well as domestic capital markets and community-based finance systems to provide resources to initiatives that integrate disaster risk reduction in sustainable development at regional, national and local levels.

**25.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

The importance was recognized of contributing to the ongoing Yokohama (Strategy & Plan of Action) Review coordinated by the UN/ISDR Secretariat, a review of the achievements, remaining challenges and required additions since the Yokohama Strategy was adopted in 1994.

The growing understanding and acceptance of the relationship between disaster and risk management and sustainable development was further emphasized in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002. It is also accepted as essential for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015.

*In the same vein, we are of the view that it is even more important that our developed abilities and resources help to define and implement a Specific Programme of Action composed of concrete objectives that contribute to the building of disaster-resilient communities.*

<p><b>26.1. Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>African Regional Consultation on Disaster Reduction. A Preparation for the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, 2–3 June 2004, Johannesburg, South Africa</p>	<p><b>26.2. Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional/Africa</p>
<p><b>26.3. Organizers:</b></p> <p>Commission of the AU, the NEPAD Secretariat and UN/ISDR Africa, UNDP and the World Bank</p>	
<p><b>26.4. Participants:</b></p> <p>From 24 African Countries</p>	



<p><b>26.5. Main outputs:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Johannesburg Recommendations for the 2005 World Conference on Disaster Reduction;</li> <li>2. Draft Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction</li> </ol>
<p><b>26.6. For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.unisdr.org/eng/wcdr/meetings/African-regional-consultation-2-3-June-04.htm">http://www.unisdr.org/eng/wcdr/meetings/African-regional-consultation-2-3-June-04.htm</a></p>
<p><b>26.7. General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Please refer to outcomes</p>
<p><b>26.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>Please refer to outcomes</p>

<p><b>27.1. Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Pacific Regional Stakeholders Planning Workshop, June 2004, Fiji</p>	<p><b>27.2. Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional</p>
<p><b>27.3. Organizers:</b></p> <p>SOPAC</p>	
<p>Proceedings being finalized</p>	

<p><b>28.1. Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Gender Equality and Disaster Risk Reduction Workshop (University of Hawaii Social Science Research Institute, USAID, ISDR), Honolulu Hawaii, 10-12 August 2004</p>	<p><b>28.2. Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic</p>
<p><b>28.3. Organizers:</b></p> <p>Universities of Hawaii and Boulder Colorado</p>	
<p><b>28.4. Participants:</b></p> <p>Approximately 100 international participants covering all regions</p>	

28.5. <b>Main outputs:</b>  Meeting report
28.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b>  Contact Elaine Enarson, Ph.D. Email: <a href="mailto:eenarson@earthlink.net">eenarson@earthlink.net</a>
28.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b>  Pending finalization
28.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b>  Pending finalization

29.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b>  International Conference on “Partnership in Community Based Disaster Management (CBDM) in Asia”, 24-26 August 2004 Delhi, India	29.2. <b>Category of the event:</b>  Thematic
29.3. <b>Organizers:</b>  United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD), United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN ISDR), Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society (SEEDS), Kyoto University Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies	
29.4. <b>Participants:</b>  More than 75 participants, representing 13 different countries.	
29.5. <b>Main outputs:</b> -Discussion of CBDM issues and activities over the last 10 years from the perspective of different stakeholders -Suggestions of possible ways of partnership in CBDM in Asia -Resolutions for CBDM in Asia for the next 10 years	
29.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b>  <a href="http://www.hyogo.uncrd.or.jp">http://www.hyogo.uncrd.or.jp</a>	

<p>29.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Review the draft final Resolutions.</p>
<p>29.8. <b>Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>Review the draft final Resolutions.</p>

<p>30.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Reunión Técnica Regional Estrategia de Comunicación e Información Pública para la Reducción de Riesgos y Desastres, 24-26 agosto 2004, Antigua, Guatemala</p>	<p>30.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Regional/Thematic</p>
<p>Outputs being translated</p>	

<p>31.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Reunión Latinoamericana y del Caribe sobre Educación para la Reducción de Riesgos y Desastres, 9 de setiembre del 2004, San Andrés, El Salvador</p>	<p>31.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic</p>
<p>Outputs being translated</p>	

<p>32.1. <b>Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>Joint Seminar on Systemic Risks and Lessons Learned: On the Road to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, 21-23 September 2004, Karlskoga, Sweden</p>	<p>32.2. <b>Category of the event:</b></p> <p>Thematic</p>
<p>32.3. <b>Organizers:</b></p> <p>European Commission Joint Research Centre &amp; Swedish Rescue Services Agency in collaboration with OECD International Futures Programme</p>	
<p>32.4. <b>Participants:</b></p> <p>Over 100 expert related to technological hazards from Europe and OECD countries, private sector and representatives from the European Commission</p>	

<p>32.5. <b>Main outputs:</b></p> <p>Conclusions of the Karlskoga Seminar</p>
<p>32.6. <b>For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p>European Commission - DG Joint Research Centre  Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen - IPSC  Traceability and Vulnerability Assessment Unit  Website: <a href="http://www.jrc.ec.eu.int">http://www.jrc.ec.eu.int</a></p>
<p>32.7. <b>General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>The conclusions endorsed by the seminar participants in and after the round table panel were categorised according to the themes of WCDR:</p> <p>1. For <b><i>governance: institutional and policy framework for risk reduction</i></b>, there is a need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to address new risk terminology – It is proposed that ISDR, EC-JRC and IRGC join forces and work with standardisation bodies (e.g. CEN);</li> <li>• for an integrated policy framework to address the various layers of risk management;</li> <li>• for an issue-oriented approach to address the changing European risk landscape;</li> <li>• to create good reasons for people to trust you rather than create trust in the system;</li> <li>• for updating policies to better address the changes in the risk landscape;</li> <li>• for building and supporting motivation to address risk;</li> <li>• for leadership in addressing change to strengthen safety culture;</li> <li>• to increase in involvement of the private sectors and the different users in research;</li> <li>• to strike a balance between safety culture and prescriptive regulation;</li> <li>• to ensure the lessons learned are not exploited for litigation purposes.</li> </ul> <p>2. For <b><i>risk identification, assessment, monitoring and early warning</i></b>, there is a need</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for analysis methods, resources and a clear context (i.e. where to input lessons learned);</li> <li>• for tools to better assess technological, environmental and economic trends that change our risk landscape;</li> </ul>

- to incorporate soft sciences (e.g. social) with hard sciences (e.g. engineering).

3. For ***knowledge management and education: building a culture of resilient communities***, there is a need

- for an improved and systematic data collection in Europe, focusing on quality reporting and refinement of data for better use;
- to establish a systematic collection of lessons learned (a template of lessons learned is needed);
- for a Network of National Centres of Lessons Learned, (e.g. NCO) to overcome obstacles in networking and information sharing (open communication).
- to adapt the way we are learning, not only collecting, but also better validating and analysing lessons learned.
- to mainstream the Lessons learned mechanism (double-loop) to better understand our risks and manage our limited resources to influence attitudes and promote safety culture.
- to build structures in regions and sub-regions for the transfer of EU experiences in training to developing countries e.g. using already existing global links of Europe to the rest of the world. Knowing local knowledge was addressed here.
- for transformation of databases to systems for education in the disasters risk management

4. For ***reducing the underlying risk factors***, there is a need

- to prioritise resources based on the potential risk reduction
- for organisational processes to keep the pace with technology
- to focus on the value orientations and concerns (better match between risk perception and reality)
- for breaking down barriers at various administrative levels (communication issue, actors such as industry, citizens, NGOs, etc.)
- to provide vulnerability maps to the citizen, in order to better communicate about vulnerabilities

As a result of the seminar and its end discussion, the ***identified actions*** to be taken are:

- to contribute to the living document on systemic risks and lessons learned to ensure that the European dimension is delivered to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction and technical and scientific experience is taken on board in the inter-governmental process;
- to support the ISDR in their various thematic activities;
- to ensure that training and transfer of EU experiences (including lessons learned) to developing countries is carried out knowing local conditions and knowledge and vice versa to build structures in

- regions and sub-regions.
- to establish a network (with the aim to bring together expertise from different risk areas in order to address the various issues related to the changing risk landscape using post-disaster analysis [lessons learned] and foresight studies);
- to build a stronger cross-sector lobbying group in the area of risk and safety with view to driving policy in the area;
- to promote the dissemination of lessons learned in various risk arenas for cross-fertilization of experiences to support constructive mindsets in society regarding risk.
- to ensure that the safety of a system at risk is the responsibility of an organisation with full control over the entirety of the system; such an organisation should involve representation of all owners and operators of the system.

**32.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:**

In a world where *technology* has taken its place between *man* and *nature*, there is need to better understand the risks that have evolved as a consequence of the interaction amongst the three above-mentioned entities. A *systemic approach* is required. The EC-JRC, SRSA and OECD are committed to work towards promoting this approach to the international arena in the forthcoming World Conference on Disaster Reduction. They will work together with UN-ISDR and the various experts to ensure that this message is delivered in Kobe Hyogo, Japan.

UN-ISDR fully supported this initiative and urged the organisers to present the results as at the forthcoming Preparatory Committee in Geneva on 11-12 October 2004.

<p><b>33.1. Event name, place and date:</b></p> <p>LAC regional consultation towards Kobe Quito-Ecuador, 16-17 September 2004</p>	<p><b>33.2. Category of the event:</b></p> <p>LAC Official regional consultation</p>
<p><b>33.3. Objectives and Organizers:</b></p> <p>The main objective of the mission was to guide, facilitate and assist in the organization of the Regional Consultation for Latin America and the Caribbean, (16-17 Sept.) as a preparatory activity for the WCDR. The consultation was convened and organized by the Government of Ecuador through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Instituto Ecuatoriano de Cooperación Internacional –INECI-) in collaboration with PAHO/WHO, UNDP, ISDR Secretariat and with financial assistance from the Swiss Cooperation (COSUDE).</p>	

#### 33.4. **Participants:**

The consultation gathered altogether 100 participants (79 delegates from 17 countries, namely: Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Dominican Republic, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, as well as 21 representatives from international and regional organizations as observers, such as CEPREDENAC, CAPRADE, ACS, CAN secretariat, IFRC, ECHO – DIPECHO, Save the Children. The participants included a wider range of actors, namely: delegates from Ministries of Foreign Affairs, as well as heads of Disaster Management Institutions, such as CNE, COPECO, CONRED, SNET, Civil Defense organizations, and authorities of Planning and Development ministries and Science and technology, etc) (see list of participants). The consultation was not opened to Non Governmental Organizations (as per discussion with INECE the eve of the regional consultation).

#### 33.5. **Main outputs and complete documentation and additional information:**

The regional consultation provided a valuable opportunity for the region to familiarize with the WCDR process and documents, and consolidate the regional views. The major outcome of the meeting was materialized in the following documents:

1. A new version of the WCDR outcome document, with specific inputs and comments from LAC region. All the 5 main objectives /priorities and subthemes were analyzed and discussed in this context. Some additional topics were added such as: climate change and disaster risk reduction, specific goals and indicators for the implementation, resistance constructions until 2015, “ensure that public and private investment consider DRR and sustainable development principles”, as well as incorporation of DRR into educational curricula at all levels, health, food security and some existing topics were reinforced. Also the need for clear targets was expressed repeatedly. Please find as attachment 1: LAC version of the outcome document for the five main topics.
2. In addition, a series of general comments were made about the implementation, including a list of proposed targets for the next 10 years. The last version will send shortly from INECI.
3. Finally a 2-page report of the consultation, “declaration” summarizing the major outcomes (see attachment 2). One of the main points is the request of the region to consider an exchange of a percentage the international debt to create a fund for every developing country for the implementation of Kobe’s PoA and disaster risk reduction activities.

<p><b>33.6. For complete documentation and additional information:</b></p> <p>Contact: Pedro Basabe, ISDR Secretariat, <a href="mailto:basabe@un.org">basabe@un.org</a></p>
<p><b>33.7. General recommendations on disaster risk reduction for the future:</b></p> <p>Currently under translation</p>
<p><b>33.8. Specific recommendations for the WCDR preparatory process:</b></p> <p>Currently under translation</p>

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Disclaimer:

This is information compiled by the ISDR Secretariat as "work in progress" which will be updated based on additional information and inputs received by the organizers of the consultations.