**Conference on**

**Role of Insurance in Disaster Risk Reduction**

***Venue: India International Centre, New Delhi***

***Date: April 19-20, 2012, New Delhi***

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**Under the aegis of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of India, Global Forum for Disaster Reduction (GFDR) is organising a conference on “Role of Insurance in Disaster Risk Reduction” (RIDRR – 2012) at New Delhi on 19-20 April 2012.**

**The conference has active support of Insurance Regulatory Development Authority (IRDA) and Chairman, IRDA has kindly consented to grace the occasion.**

Insurance can play a key role in facilitating public‐private partnerships for dealing with the losses from disasters. This conference proposes a hazard management program, which links insurance with other policy tools and brings together all interested parties concerned with Disaster Risk Reduction. It stresses the importance of identifying and assessing the risk, understanding both the decision processes of individuals/organisations in hazard‐prone areas and the insurability issues associated with the disaster risk. A series of policy‐related questions/issues thereby arise for future research.

Across the globe the economic and insured losses from these events are rapidly rising in line with the frequency and severity of major natural catastrophes which is due to a combination of rapid simultaneous global economic and population growth. According to the World Economic Forum, between 1950 and 2010, world population grew from 2.5 to 6.9 billion, with much of that growth occurring in areas more prone to the impact of natural disasters, such as coastal areas and riverbanks. Limitations in public and private sector disaster risk prevention management and planning, globalisation, and a growing concentration of assets and people in urban centres and high exposure areas also contribute to the rise in disaster-related losses.

* The 10-year average of economic losses since 2000 totalled US$110 billion, while average insured losses totalled US$35 billion. In 2010 alone, disasters cost the global economy US$130 bn. *[Source Munich Re 3 January, 2011].* That figure has nearly doubled this year. Economic losses of selected 2011 disasters, including January’s landslides in Rio de Janeiro, the February New Zealand earthquake and the earthquake and tsunami in Japan on 11 March, will exceed US$200 bn.

Natural catastrophes affect all sectors of business, both directly and indirectly. Disasters can cause operational and supply chain disruptions through the physical damage to property and/or loss of critical resources and infrastructure, such as energy supplies and transmission, public infrastructure and distribution networks.

**RIDRR 2012** is a premier event where it is expected to receive presentations from highly proficient speakers from the Insurance Sector as well as Government Policy makers. Abstracts of the technical papers in not more than 250 words may reach us on or before 1 March, 2012 and the full papers may be sent by 20th March 2012. The abstracts of the papers should be covering one or more of the topics or any subject correlated with Role of Insurance Sector in DRR. The papers shall be evaluated for the final selection by an expert committee setup by the organizers.

**CONFERENCE THEME & SUB-THEMES:**

* **Status of Insurance in Disaster Management in India**
	+ Government of India & National Disaster Management Authority’s national level initiatives
* **Issues in Developing Disaster Risk Insurance in India**
	+ Role of insurance in hazard identification, risk assessment, risk prevention and mitigation
	+ Mainstream Disaster Risk Financing & Insurance In National DRR Policies and Initiatives
	+ Need & Issues for Policy Changes in Insurance Sector
	+ New Instruments to be Introduced
	+ Affordability: Sharing Financial Burden (Should any or some part of Insurance be made compulsory)
* **Efficient financial planning and resources utilization for disaster management – Indian experiences and achievements**
* **Global Best Practices and learning from International Experiences**
* **Role of the reinsurance industry in the management of weather related risks**
* **Business Continuity Planning (BCP) & Business Continuity Management (BCM) with reference to Disasters**
* **Economics of catastrophe risk insurance**
* **Case Studies** **– related to the Theme of the conference**

**Abstracts** should be submitted by **March 5th, 2012** for review by a Core Committee of the conference. **Full papers** are due by **March 20th, 2012.** A selection of papers from the seminar will be invited for publication in *Pre Conference Catalogue.*

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