

ANNEXE 10

Report from the African Advisory Group of Parliamentarians

4th African Regional Platform for DRR

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Parliamentarians' Participation in DRR: WHY?

- Impact of disasters poses great threat to protecting people's lives and livelihoods, and sustainable development
- Legislators with DRR knowledge can help to secure political commitment and action required for DRR
- Making disaster risk reduction a national and local priority requires sustainability of political commitment, with strong support from legislatures
- Parliaments can exercise oversight responsibility over the executive
- Parliaments control the national purse through involvement in the budgetary process
- Parliamentarians can an strategic role in national policy making process and local implementation in their own constituencies.

African Parliamentarians Engagement in Disaster Risk Reduction

Started in 2008 at the Consultative Meeting in Manila, where EALA MPs attended and committed to DRR In 2009 with the leadership of a Kenyan MP, the initiative started to take root in the Africa. We have adopted the Nairobi Action Plan of Parliamentarians.

Nairobi Action Plan for Parliamentarians

We parliamentarians commit:

- To use regional bodies to advance the agenda of climate change and DRR
- To be Champions of DRR and champions at the local level and develop a blueprint on best practices
- To develop relevant legislation in order to strengthen the capacity for Africa disaster management and to provide an enabling environment for Climate Change Adaptation

Parliamentarians Took Immediate Action

- Called on EALA to develop a model legislation to mandate the mainstreaming of gender sensitive DRR in national and regional development plans including Climate Change Adaptation
- Advocated DRR is a tool for Climate Change Adaptation at national and local levels, including the National Adaptation Plans
- Joined our government delegations or regional delegations at COP 15, 16 to make sure that DRR included in national negotiations, including AU delegation and the delegation of Senegal
- Promoted the Hyogo Framework for Action and the African Regional Strategy as adopted by Ministers of Environment and positively acknowledged by Heads of State.

Regional and Sub-Regional Meetings of Parliamentarians

The Malta Declaration of the Commitment by Parliamentarians to COP 15 and Beyond

- Recognize the importance of building a culture of prevention by using education as a good example of how long-term investment benefits socio-economic development and thus prevention.
- Request the private sector to set aside no less than 10% of corporate social responsibility funding for the specific use for disaster risk management and climate change adaptation programmes and projects.

Inter-Parliamentary Union and COP15

- We have also advocated the synergy between DRR and CCA at difference conferences of regional and international parliamentary forum and parliament, including **Pan-African Parliament** in South Africa, **World Bank Parliamentarian Network Annual Conference** in Paris
- Engaged parliamentarians have joined the national delegations at the COP 15 held in Copenhagen among them Hon. Rachel Shebesh and Hon. Abdou Sane.

Global Platform 2009 and 2011

It has been clear that parliamentarians can play a crucial role in disaster risk reduction. Parliamentarians agreed to:

- Advocate for DRR in legislature and executive governance, across political parties, and promote coherent policy, greater awareness, and a culture and mentality of prevention among politicians
- Set up a national DRR platform in every country which shall be replicated at regional and local levels and shall facilitate exchange of best practices among countries.

IPU-UNISDR Advocacy Kit for Parliamentarians

- 122nd IPU resolution urges governments to assess all their critical public facilities such as schools and hospitals
- The Advocacy Kit benefited from In depth discussion at the Consultative Meeting of Regional Consultation of West African Parliamentarians

PHOTO CAPTION - Parliamentarian Meeting 19-20 December 2011 – United Nations – Geneva

Global Advisory Group of Parliamentarians

Group Decisions:

1. Establish regional Advisory Groups of Parliamentarians, built on the leadership of the UNISDR Advisory Group of Parliamentarians
2. Reach out and broaden the parliamentarians' network for DRR with environment, education, climate change and development
3. Piggy-back with those commissions and legislation related to environment and development
4. Engage speakers for making DRR a truly cross-party agenda
5. Collect best practices from each country to demonstrate cost and benefit for DRR investment

African Advisory Group (AfAG) (Established Nov 2012)

Plan of Action of East African Parliamentarians:

- Prioritize the development of a Model of Legislation for East African Countries through the EALA
- Prioritize of sensitize member of parliaments on DRR and on *the Resilient Cities Campaign* in our respective countries

Results and Impacts

- **Regional Champions of Parliamentarians** engaged and each have taken actions to move the DRR agenda forward at different levels;
- **Advance Model of Legislation** for Eastern African Countries has revised and will be presented at the next East African Legislative Assembly
- **Parliamentary Workshops** on DRR been held with national partners in Benin, Senegal and Uganda. Led by members of the African Advisory Group

*Our commitment is to consistently represent
the true voice of the people*

The Malta Declaration of the Commitment
by Parliamentarians to COP 15 and Beyond

THANK YOU