5th Global Platform for Disaster Risks Reduction

22 - 26 May 2017, Cancun, Mexico

Statement of

His Excellency Ambassador Ahmad ALLAM-MI,

ECCAS Secretary General

Presented by Mr Dominique KUITSOUC,

Disaster Risks Management & Climate Change Adaptation Regional Programmes Coordinator

* Your Excellency;
* Excellences, Heads of Delegation;
* Ladies and gentlemen, in your respective ranks and titles;

It is with great pleasure that I rise today in this beautiful city of Cancun, on the occasion of the 5th Global Platform for Disaster Reduction.

Allow me to welcome the initiative of this first international meeting since 2015, aiming at assessing the progress made in the fight against vulnerabilities.

* **Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen;**

The year 2015 has indeed provided an excellent opportunity for the international community, with the adoption of a series of international agreements that will guide the global development agenda.

Following the adoption of the UN Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015, the Paris Agreement on Climate which entered into force on November 4, 2016, complemented in the best way the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, adopted in Sendai, Japan in March 2015.

This Sendai Framework is the basis for a new policy paradigm and action on risk reduction in the context of global sustainable development.

From this perspective, the 5th Global Platform for Disaster Reduction therefore inaugurates the era of concrete solutions for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in an integrated and inclusive approach fostered by the broad guidelines of the Sendai Framework and the Paris Agreement.

* **Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen;**

The Secretariat General of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) is at the forefront of sharing this vision through many initiatives that bring hope and success. These include:

* The alignment of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Central Africa DRR Strategy to the Sendai Framework 2015-2030 through the Kinshasa Declaration of October 2015 of the ministers in charge of the DRR;
* The creation in May 2015 of the Central Africa Climatic Prediction and Application Centre (CAPC-AC) with the headquartered in Douala, Cameroon, which will soon to be operational to meet the needs of early Warning for hydro meteorological hazards;
* The creation in October 2015 of the Parliamentary Network for Disaster Resilience (REPARC) to meet the sake of mainstreaming DRR in national legislative reflexes;
* The development of a Water Information System (WIS), to support the risk atlas project in Central Africa;
* The strengthening of inter-state and intra-state coordination and dialogue through annual Central Africa Platforms for DRR (CAPf-DRR), biennale Ministerial Conferences on DRR and the training of National Platforms.

I would like to thank all the Technical and Financial Partners for the multifaceted support provided to ECCAS in this endeavour.

Permit me to seize this opportunity to launch a vibrant appeal to partners on all sides to support the sustainability of all these initiatives and to accompany the ECCAS in implementing the recommendations that will arise from the present gathering.

Thanks for your kind attention.