

STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS

By the Head of the Netherlands Delegation
H.E. Mr. R. Mollinger
to the Special Session on the Indian Ocean Disaster
Kobe, Japan, 20 January 2005

Mr Chairman, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me express my sincere thanks to the organisers of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction to hold this special session on the Indian Ocean Disaster. Following the recent tragic events in Southeast Asia this session is highly significant.

As time is very limited, I would like to limit my contribution to inform this special session about the following.

The Netherlands Minister of Development Cooperation has, in response to the flash appeal of ISDR/PPEW of January 4, made a quarter to half a million USD available for co-financing the Evaluation and Strengthening of early warning systems in countries affected by the December 26 Tsunami.

As the exact needs are not clear yet at this very moment, the specific amount and the modalities of this contribution will be worked upon at a later stage.

Thank you for your attention.