Brazil

World Conference on Disaster Reduction
(Kobe, 18-22 January, 2005)
BRAZIL
Opening Statement

First of all, allow me to congratulate you for your election and to express Brazil's gratitude to the Government of Japan for hosting this conference, which constitutes an outstanding opportunity to discuss ways of strengthening our nations resilience to natural disasters. My Delegation believes that the participation of all stakeholders in the works of this meeting should be guided by the spirit of solidarity and co-operation. We are convinced that international co-operation constitutes an essential tool to implement viable alternatives aiming at lessening the vulnerability of our nations to natural disasters.

Also on behalf of the Government and the people of Brazil I join previous speakers in extending the deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims of the recent tsunami disaster and to their families ~~and~~ to the people and Governments of those countries which tragically suffered huge loss of life and great material damages. It is worth noting that Brazilian nationals were among those who perished in the catastrophe.

At the same time, my Delegation commends the international community for the prompt support and contribution to the relief efforts, which reflects the firm commitment of countries to address, in a collective manner, challenges facing mankind. Brazil is proud to have joined other nations and international agencies in those relief efforts.