



KOBE REPORT draft **Report of Session 3.10, Thematic Cluster 3**

Capacity Building and Disaster Reduction

1. Summary of the session's presentation and discussion

The thematic session commenced with Dr. Wilfried Kreisel, Director, WHO Centre for Health Development (WHO Kobe Centre) who cited the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World's top priority for the development and strengthening of capacities to prevent, reduce and mitigate disasters. The objectives of the session are: (1) to appraise existing training programs in the context of emergencies and based on the disasters occurring in specific regions and Member States; (2) to recognize the challenges and the various responses to the challenges; and (3) to propose targets and success indicators for the next decade 2005 - 2015.

Dr. Pesigan's paper, "**Facing our Future with Reduced Risks,**" introduced the natural and human generated hazards including armed aggression occurring in the region and the role of WPRO in disaster risk management with particular mention on the strengthening of the capacity of human resources in disaster management. He mentioned human resource development activities of Member States both at the national and sub national levels. He discussed the regional plan regarding the need for an inventory of existing health emergency management courses, standardization of competencies and curriculum, assessment tools and indicators, and a database of a pool of experts for the Regional Health Emergency Operations Team.

Dr. Ciro Ugarte's presentation on "**Regional Capacity Building Strategies for Disaster Reduction**" provided a brief introduction of the Pan American Health Organization and focused his discussion on (a) strengthening institutions and (b) training as a key to progress from vulnerability to safety. He emphasized the need to support the creation of national programs including technical staff development, outsourcing, access to multisectoral decision-making at various levels. On training, he shared formal and informal course offerings such as health emergency preparedness, response and mitigation, environmental health, management of public health risks, collapsed structures search and rescue, supply management, information and communication technology among others.

Dr. Takashi Ukai's "**National Capacity Building for Disaster Reduction**" reviewed the disaster response of Japan by focusing on its experience on the Sarin attack in Tokyo subway and the Great Hanshin-Awaji earthquake. From the lessons learned out of these two disasters, proposals were made that improved disaster preparedness and the development of national strategies to reinforce capacities for disaster reduction. These include the development of information networks, disaster medicine operation in designated disaster medical centers, training and education on disaster medicine, and education of the citizenry on emergency health care. At present there are 545 hospitals designated as disaster medical centers in Japan.

Dr. Li Zhipeng presented a paper entitled "**Human Resource Training and Development for Response to Emergency in China**". He stressed the role of a strong leadership in setting up and improving the public health emergency response system that include improving the command system, planning, surveillance and information network. He proposed that training and development be strengthened and that international organizations play a major role in this effort.

Dr. Carmencita A. Banatin's presentation on "**National Capacity Building Strategies for Disaster Reduction**" centered on 7 strategies, namely: development and implementation of a national training agenda, policy formulation to support human resource development programs, licensing and accreditation of training and development programs, training of trainers at the national level, developing a pool of trainers at the sub-national level, networking with stakeholders on disaster management, and budgetary support including funds for rewards and incentives.

Dr. Nguyen Huy An's presentation is on the "**National Capacity Building Strategy of the Health Sector, Vietnam, 2005 – 2015**". He mentioned the impact of disasters as to total number of deaths and damages to

properties. He continued with capacity building activities at national and international levels and its relevance at provincial, district and communal levels. He pointed out difficulties confronted like lack of experience on earthquakes and tsunamis, lack of early warning system and need for upgrading mass casualty solutions, setting up disaster information system, standards, indicators and the reality of budgetary constraints. Furthermore, he presented Viet Nam, plan for national capacity building strategy for 2005-2015.

Dr. Maria del Rocio Saenz's "**Country Report on Costa Rica**" talked of risk reduction and emergency plan linked with a national development plan. She said that a public policy framework should be in place as it is a cross cutting issue and a developmental process in line with the Millennium Development Goals. Challenges met are decentralization of the decision making process to strengthen local risk reduction, public private partnerships, and information sharing among stakeholders.

Ms. Joanne Burke presented "**UN's Disaster Management Training Program.**" She gave a comprehensive review of the Disaster Management Training Program (DMTP) in the context of the Yokohama strategy, the key changes in the disaster training field for the past decade, its challenges and the role of the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in the development of the DMTP. While significant development has been done, measurement of the effects of these immense efforts needs further study in coming up with norms, standards and learning and/or documentation of/from best practices; development of tools for building national systems and self sufficiency for disaster management training; information resources and exchange; and the promotion of linkages among public and private sector.

2. Primary Issues

- a. Developing functional and sustainable human resource information system;
 - b. Analyzing jobs to come up with appropriate core and functional competencies for various health workers in disaster management;
 - c. Enhancement of the United Nations (UN) internal capacity and collaboration for disasters;
 - d. Improvement of disaster risk management capacities of national and local partners for risk disaster management;
 - e. Strengthening monitoring and evaluation of training and development programs
 - f. Strengthening networking and collaboration amongst training and development institutions providing various courses on disaster management; and
- Funding and budgetary arrangements for implementation.

3. Targets and Indicators

- a. National Training Agenda developed, revised, amended and implemented;
- b. Training Agenda at lower levels consistent with the National Training Agenda;
- c. Training program for leaders developed, implemented and evaluated;
- d. Eighty percent (80%) of all identified leaders are trained;
- e. System of certification and re-certification of training programmes including continuing professional education established and implemented;
- f. Health emergency management courses incorporated in the curriculum and taught in all medical and paramedical professions;
- g. Information system established and functional and readily accessible by stakeholders;
- h. Interagency learning resource center for disaster risk management established, maintained, and utilized by partner agencies and other stakeholders;
- i. Partnership among UN agencies, private sector, regional and national organizations, academe, and other stakeholders strengthened;

A certain percentage of the budget of the Ministry of Health, government and non-government organizations, and donors be allotted for training/human resource development in health emergency management.

4. Any other relevant and brief comments

- a. Timelines were not set specifically as these need to be agreed through a multi-stakeholder approach in Member States.

Indicators for the UNDP's Disaster Management Training Program will be based on the "shape" of DMTP in the future.

5. Name, affiliation and contacts of presenters and titles of presentations

Dr. Arturo M. Pesigan WHO-Regional Office for the Western Pacific	Facing our Future with Reduced Risks
Dr. Ciro Ugarte WHO-Regional Office for the Americas	Regional Capacity Building Strategies for Disaster Reduction
Dr. Li Zhipeng Ministry of Health Beijing, China	Capacity Building for Response to Public Health emergency in China
Dr. Takashi Ukai Hyogo Emergency Medical Center Kobe, Japan	National Capacity Building for Disaster reduction in Japan
Dr. Carmencita Banatin Department of Health Manila. Philippines	National Capacity Building Strategies for Disaster Risk Reduction
Dr. Nguyen Huy An Ministry of Health Hanoi, Viet Nam	National Capacity Building Strategies for Disaster Risk Reduction
Dr. Maria del Rocio Saenz Ministry of Health San Jose, Costa Rica	Country Report Costa Rica
Dr. Jostacio M. Lapitan WHO Kobe Centre	Proposed Indicators for Monitoring and Evaluating Capacity Building for Disaster Reduction 2005-2015
Ms. Joanne Burke	UN Disaster Management Training Program

b) Name, affiliation and contact of person filling in the form

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