The secretariat of the Third International Conference on Early Warning wishes to call for submission of proposals for specific early warning projects in disaster prone areas around the world.

True to the conference motto ‘from concept to action’ it is the declared goal of the EWC III to act as a catalyst for the conceptualisation, funding and implementation of concrete early warning projects, with a view to putting into practice the Hyogo Framework for Action agreed at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe in January 2005. While the selection of individual projects for funding rests with donors, it is anticipated that the EWC III will serve as a useful mechanism to identify solid project proposals, offer expert advice to applicants and present promising projects to potential donors. The portfolio of project proposals will be compiled and maintained by the UN/ISDR Platform for the Promotion of Early Warning. A limited number of candidates will furthermore be invited to introduce their projects in the conference plenary.

Submissions may include new projects, projects under development or the adaptation of existing projects to different situations. They may be sent in by government bodies, non-governmental organisations, scientific institutions and private agencies. All project proposals should be accompanied by a written endorsement from a relevant government department or agency.

Interested parties are requested to refer to the attached guidelines for advice on submission modalities and format, as well as project selection criteria. Projects will be chosen based on their impact, feasibility (both technical and financial), urgency, sustainability, efficiency, cost effectiveness and regional balance. The deadline for submission is 31 October 2005, and proposals should be addressed to the secretariat of EWC III, UN/ISDR, Palais des Nations (room A.276-278), CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland, or by email to ewc3@un.org. For updated information on the conference, please visit www.ewc3.org.