AMCDRR
2016

Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2016

New Delhi, India

02-05 November 2016

Concept Note of Featured Event

Event title	**Featured event 1: Disaster Risk Resilient Infrastructure for Sustainable Development**
Event code	**FE 1**
Date and Time	Thursday 3 November 2016: 15:00 – 16:30
Venue/ Room no.	Plenary Hall, Ground Floor, Vigyan Bhawan
Theme/ topic to be addressed	Promoting development of Disaster Risk Resilient Infrastructure for the prevention of future risk and achievement of sustainable development in Asia
Organizers	Chair: **Government of India** **Collaborators**: *(tentative)* UNISDR (Lead) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) New Development Bank (NDB/ BRICS Bank) Asian Development Bank (ADB) The World Bank UNOPS (DRR for Resilience programme)
Session Objectives	1. **Deliberate** on the urgent action required to develop responsibly by minimizing creation of future risks through strong and quality

	infrastructure development in the region. 2. Provide **a set of key recommended actions** to strengthen policy, technical solutions and advocacy towards disaster resilient infrastructure development in the region and globally. 3. **Launch** a **'Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure'**, involving the key developers and investors in the region in order to accelerate risk prevention to make infrastructure resilient. **The outcomes of the session will be a set of recommendations and actions that will be followed and implemented by the proposed Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure and in turn will support the implementation of the Sendai Framework.**
Background and context -	Over the past ten years, the Asia Pacific region has suffered severe human and economic damage. More than US$500 billion in direct losses are estimated over the decade which accounts for 45 per cent of the global total. *(Source: Asia Pacific Disaster Report 2015).* Several recent major disasters caused significant infrastructure loss, revealing the soaring level of critical asset exposure in the region *(data source: SwissRe, Sigma database)*: a) The Sichuan Earthquake (Wenchuan County) in May 2008 resulted in $137 billion economic loss, and damage and destruction to five million houses and the collapse of 18,500 schools ; b) The Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in March 2011 resulted in direct economic losses totaling $221 billion with 128,538 buildings destroyed; and c) The Nepal earthquake in April 2015 destroyed more than 600,000 houses and damaged another 280,000 dwellings. The loss of housing infrastructure alone set the country back decades in terms of its development. The building of quality and resilient infrastructure in the coming years will be thus a ***key determinant in preventing and reducing future disaster risk.*** In turn such risk sensitive investment will influence significantly the success of the Sustainable Development Goals. This is especially the case in Asia where trillions of dollars will be spent on new infrastructures over the next 15 years. Poor quality buildings, roads, power plants, nuclear facilities, telecommunication, public health facilities often result in the collapse of the structure during a disaster and a cascading negative impact on people's lives and livelihoods because of the loss of such critical assets. The collapse of a building, loss of a bridge or the closure of a road or any such interruption in

	the function of critical infrastructure is a key parameter that turns a hazard into a disaster. As the rapid pace of development – and infrastructure creation – in much of Asia continues, it is essential that investment in resilient and quality infrastructure that prevents and reduces disaster risk is facilitated. Despite the fast pace of development – or perhaps, even because of it – the current shortfall in infrastructure needs in developing countries is several trillion dollars. Countries, often in partnership with development banks, are striving to close this gap. While it is evident that the growth trend and infrastructure development will continue to increase, it is of paramount importance that countries develop responsibly and not increase the current stock of disaster risk. Responsible and risk sensitive infrastructure development will be the most important factor in establishing the future level of risk. Asia, where infrastructure needs are among the greatest, is witnessing a new wave of cooperation in infrastructure development. This includes the establishment of the: Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB); Global Infrastructure Hub; New Development Bank (NDB or BRICS Bank); Asia Pacific Project Preparation Facility; World Bank Group's Global Infrastructure Facility; and so on. The AIIB and the NDB are expected to have initial capital of about $100 billion each. The AIIB has the specific objective of boosting infrastructure investment across Asia. Similarly, private sector investors will also play a major role in investing in infrastructure and will invest billions of dollars in this regard. Countries in the region have put an enormous effort into managing disasters and reducing disaster risk. They have made progress in putting building codes and incorporating standards for safe and strong infrastructures in their traditional practices of infrastructure development. However, disaster risk being dynamic and often exacerbated by climate variability requires a more dynamic and upgraded approach in tackling risk to infrastructures due to the emerging risks. Although there is increased understanding of disaster risk and risk reduction issues in general, there are still bottlenecks in the making infrastructure resilient from disaster. As such, it is essential to minimize the following barriers to the development of risk resilient infrastructure, i.e. the lack of:

	- Consideration of disaster risks by investors in the planning stage; - Accurate location specific risk information and assessments; - Effective policies and regulatory frameworks as well as their application viz-a-viz investors (e.g development banks, private investors and so on) and users (e.g national and local governments) level; - Consideration of disaster risks in national infrastructure planning or in broader sustainable development planning; - Technical capacity to apply policies in practice for resilient infrastructure development; and so on. **Opportunities to promote disaster risk resilient infrastructure** Risk resilient infrastructure development can be promoted from two sides, viz. i) at the source of major infrastructure investments, i.e through development banks and private investors; and ii) at the national level through awareness, policy and capacity development. Prevention of new risk through a responsible and risk sensitive development will require a multitude of partners to join hands. A **'Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure'** would potentially be a solution to the above challenges. The 'Coalition' could be formed as a strategic partnership involving key governments, multilateral development banks, private sector and major public/ private infrastructure investors would be a powerful political, economic and social coalition working together on disaster-resilient infrastructure development. The main objective of the coalition will be to support and accelerate the development of disaster-resilient infrastructure in Asia. The coalition may support both infrastructure investors and countries in the region by : i) providing policy guidance to instill disaster risk sensitivity into the policies of key infrastructure investors; ii) providing technical solutions to countries; iii) advocating and promoting disaster resilient infrastructures development tools, techniques and good practices; and iv) establishing a disaster resilient infrastructure knowledge sharing forum. The AMCDRR 2016 will provide an opportunity to the key infrastructure investors, multilateral development banks and governments to deliberate and focus on solutions towards disaster resilient infrastructure development in

	the region and scale up globally. Some of the key questions to aid discussion and formulation of key actions and recommendations are: • How to engage key infrastructure developers, investors and governments towards developing disaster risk resilient infrastructure? • How to promote use of science, technology, innovation and capacity-building towards resilient infrastructure development and share knowledge, experience and best practices among all stakeholders? • How to provide technical support and solutions to key infrastructure investors and developing countries to strengthen risk sensitivity in their policies, strategies and plans?
Session format	The session will be a panel discussion with members from key infrastructure investors *(investment and multi-lateral development banks)*, infrastructure developers and governments) **Indicative agenda:** 15.00 – 15.10: Introduction by the Chair – Objectives, agenda and panelists 15.10 – 16.00: Panel discussion *(10 min intervention by each panellist)* 16.00 – 16.15: Interactions with participants 16.15 – 16.30: Chair summary of the discussion and key recommendations *(A detailed agenda will be shared prior to the event)*
Main outcomes	• A set of recommended actions to promote and implement disaster resilient infrastructure development practices in the region. • Consensus to establish a Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure with engagement of interested governments, multilateral development banks and other public/ private sector infrastructure investors and developers.
List of Speakers and their interventions	**Chair: Dr P K Mishra, Additional Principal Secretary, Prime Minister Office, Government of India**

(tentative)	1. **Mr Jin Liqun**, President, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank representative (AIIB) 2. **Mr K. V Kamath**, President, New Development Bank (NDB/BRICS Bank) 3. **Mr Takehiko Nakao**, President of Asian Development Bank (ADB) 4. **Mr Jim Yong Kim**, President, The World Bank **5. Ms Grete Faremo**, Under Secretary General and Executive Director of UNOPS 6. **Ms Arundhati Bhattacharya**, Chairperson, State Bank of India **7. Mr Robert Glasser**, Special Representative of Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction
Technical Equipment	Projector, computer, microphones, others