

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Dear colleagues, let me on behalf of the Minister of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Armenia to welcome all the participants of the conference.

The Government of the Republic of Armenia as a member of the United Nations in recent years has taken serious steps towards policy development on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and its integration into development programs, recognizing it as a crucial direction of the country.

Achievements are certainly noticeable:

- National DRR strategy was adopted
- National Platform for DRR was established
- DRR working groups at national and regional levels were formed
- Mainstreaming of the DRR educational programs in the areas of formal and informal education was implemented
- • National and regional Crisis management centers and operating 911 service, which allowed to improve the processes of early warning and rapid response, were established and operationalized.
- • Rescue forces of Armenia became a member of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) which increases the possibility of a rapid response

It is noteworthy that one of the main conditions of these achievements was the presence of the country's political will. We know that in order to ensure the development of the most important factor is to develop an effective DRR system and to ensure sustainable development. Therefore there is still a lot of work to be done, in line with Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030 One of the most important areas is the decentralization of the processes and move a process of disaster risk management to the local communities

Drawing on its own experience in implementing Hyogo Framework, and now Sendai Framework, we have concluded that for more effective implementation it is necessary that the Sendai Framework become a national programme for the entire population

It is to note that Armenia is a leader in the field of public awareness on emergency situations and disaster risk reduction

In 2016, the next 4th conference "Public-awareness as a cornerstone for DRR and sustainable development" will be dedicated to the promotion and advocacy of the Sendai

Framework, including all stakeholders, lessons learned and challenges as well as application of the information and innovation technologies and public awareness

Armenia has made significant progress towards ensuring safety of all children in educational institutions and communities prone to disasters. The Comprehensive School Safety Framework has been integrated into the Government's policies and short-term and long-term action plans on school seismic safety and disaster management as well as mainstreamed into the National Curriculum Framework.

We would like to transform Armenia into a resilient country, significantly reducing the losses that threaten the lives of people, the economy and communities from various disasters. We want to create a solid foundation for sustainable development

**To make the country resilient to disasters means to create a solid foundation for sustainable development**

## **REPORT**

Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Armenia let me welcome all the participants of the conference.

According to the requirements of the Sendai Framework for DRR 2015-2030, Republic of Armenia from 2016 to 2020 envisages to implement a number of measures in the following areas:

- The development of the disaster risk management (DRM) at the institutional level
- Human resource development in the field of Disaster Risk Management (DRM)
- Development of of scientific and information framework in the field of Disaster Risk Management (DRM)
- Enhance capabilities of the program related to financial investments in the field of Disaster Risk Management (DRM)
- Development of Disaster Risk Management (DRM) features.

- Implementation of activities, monitoring and control.

Let me briefly present activities provided for the above-mentioned areas, which are associated with all aspects of the Sendai Framework :

### **1. Improvement of legal and institutional Disaster Risk Management (DRM) frameworks**

In this direction, it is envisaged:

- Elaboration of a disaster risk management strategy and its implementation programmes
- Development of a common methodology for risk assessment at the national and local levels.

### **2. Development of the Disaster Risk Management (DRM) at the institutional level**

The following is planned in this direction:

- Integrate the DRR action and contingency plans in the schools of the republic
- Develop and systematically improve the realistic and detailed plans for response to a variety of disasters at the national, regional and local levels

### **3. Human resources capacity building.**

The following is planned in this direction:

- Continuous improvement of education in the area of the DRR, including, secondary, specialized, higher as well as postgraduate education
- Integration of the DRM components into the programs of retraining of the state and territorial administration and all types of educational institutions
- To establish in the Republic of Armenia a sustainable state disaster resilient health system as well as a trained medical personnel that possess the relevant knowledge.

### **4. Strengthening the scientific and information framework**

The following is planned in this direction:

- - Development of a unified database on damage and losses for all government organizations and other beneficiaries
- - Localization of international multicluster methodology on preliminary rapid assessment
- Application of the methodology and information flows in the area of the DRR Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

## **5. Enhance capabilities of the programs related to the investments in the area of the DRR**

The following is planned in this direction:

- A significant increase of funding of the DRR activities reflected in national and local budgets
- Integration of a modern system of insurance against disaster risk
- Ensure the strictest control standards over modern urban planning aimed at disaster resilience and consistent implementation of the school safety program aimed at the seismic resistance of school buildings.

## **6. Development opportunities related to disaster risk management**

The following is planned in this direction:

- Periodically evaluate all communities on the subject of the disaster risk, vulnerability, hazards
- Ensure in all communities an establishment, launch and ongoing updates of the electronic cards of risks.
- Strengthen at all levels a unified information management system related to the disasters and the corresponding power

## **7. Implementation of the activities, monitoring and control.**

A set of actions in this direction is aimed at improving the monitoring network, the national seismic monitoring network protection, the expansion and improvement of early warning systems, etc.

Concluding a short overview of the planned activities in Armenia, for the period of 2016- 2020, would like to thank you for your attention and wish us all success.

**Thank you for your attention!**