

Speech by the Chairman of the State Committee for Emergency and Disaster Management of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Esteemed chair and co-chair,

Dear delegates,

Availing this opportunity, I would like to appreciate efforts of the government of the Republic of India, UNISDR, governments of various countries of Asia and international and regional organizations devoted to successful preparation of this conference. I am convinced that this conference will achieve its objectives thanks to active participation of all the participants and thanks to skilled coordination of our esteemed chair and co-chair.

The outcome documents of this conference reflects policy direction, targets for different steps and action plans for each target and steps to enable sustainable development by significantly reducing disaster risks in Asia.

The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea approves the draft of the Asian Regional Plan for implementation of Sendai Framework. For successful implementation of the regional plan we would like to highlight following issues.

First, we should pay due attention to provision of favorable environment and conditions as well as efficient procedure and methodology.

Ultimate goal of developing regional plan with strenuous efforts over a year was not mere development of the plan itself but was to realize efficient regional cooperation and collaboration in DRR sector.

In recent years, tendency to rely on sanctions and blockades based on political consideration is getting more and more unscrupulous, and this hampers collaboration and development of individual nations.

In order to facilitate regional cooperation and collaboration in DRR, we should not tolerate unilateral economic sanctions and blockades which are proposed by some specific nations from their political and economic perspectives and targeted at individual nations.

At the same time, we should mitigate and withdraw all the legal and institutional barriers which hinder regional cooperation and collaboration.

Second, we should pay due attention to reinforcement of national capacities and to activation of support for national efforts at regional level.

Each nation faces different constraints in implementing regional plan and the capacity to cope with the constraints also varies.

The draft regional plan mentioned inadequate understanding and addressing of underlying risk factors as major constraints in the region and identified insufficient resources and limited capacity as