

Statement at Ministerial Session 2 in AMCDRR 2016

Deputy Secretary General UMEZAWA Akima, Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS)
November 3, 2016 (15:00-17:30)

Thank you very much for warm introduction.

H.E _____, Government of India,

Ms. Kirsi Madi, Director of the UNISDR,

Distinguished panelists,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It's my great pleasure, as a representative of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat of three states, China, Japan and Korea, to present how three states have contributed to the advancement of the DRR, through the robust regional cooperation in the Northeast Asia. I also would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of India and UNISDR for providing a precious opportunity for the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, TCS to make valuable contributions to this year's Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,

As three countries, China, Japan and Korea have historically lived in a natural-disaster-prone area, it's an inevitable consequence that three states have developed comprehensive disaster policy coordination, and strengthened trilateral cooperation for the effective disaster management.

The Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat, TCS, is established as an international organization, by China, Japan, and Korea, aimed at promoting cooperative relations among the three. One of its prime functions is to support the trilateral consultative mechanisms, such as three leaders meeting "Summit" and Ministerial meeting. We have 21 Ministerial meetings, one of which is the Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management.

As for the effective regional cooperation, I do place an emphasis on the leaders' commitment. Three leaders of China, Japan and Korea are committed to establishing the Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management in 2008, as the highest body for regional cooperation for the DRR.

The Ministerial Meeting has evolved the policy coordination through three arrows, (1) information sharing, (2) capacity building and (3) cooperative projects. It has also identified challenges and shared experiences, thus strengthening regional cooperation in building resilience to natural disasters.

Initial areas of information sharing are firsthand information such as measures, laws and regulations. Now, it has enhanced such cooperation in terms of risk sensitivity, including a hazard profile, disaster loss & recovery, root causes, lessons learned, and even Social Network Services.

Capacity building has also developed during last 5 years. Starting from technical exercise and simple training, we have developed cross-cutting policy and operational synchronization, which highlights the need to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters.

Project-based cooperation is the third arrow of policy coordination. An expert seminar and a table-top exercise are two examples of good practices. Expert Training for DRR has been organized on the basis of timely topics such as HFA, and SFDRR, and developed in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, including international organization such as UNOCHA, IFRC, Red Cross, and UNISDR.

The TTX addresses the simulation of the interactive actions on the basis of stage setting on prevention, preparation, response, restoration and international relief. Repetition of the annual TTX has developed a robust networking, connectivity between a rescue and assistance, and the coordination with international community.

Regional cooperation for disaster risk reduction in Northeast Asia has achieved a coherent policy streamline, which has seamlessly bridged global framework, regional cooperation, and state practices. This coherent streamline has also facilitated the confidence building among multi-stakeholders in risk-sensitive matters, developed a regional specific standardization for disaster management actions, and built cooperative bonds with international organizations, especially the UNISDR.

Thank you very much.

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