**ARISE, the Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies**

**Statement for the 2019 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**

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ARISE is the private sector alliance for creating disaster risk resilient societies with a membership of over 250 companies located in 25 countries. The key role of the private sector in building resilient communities is indicated in the Sendai Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Climate Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the New Urban Agenda and the Agenda for Humanity. 2019 offers many opportunities, with industry-led initiatives such as Global Compact Action Platforms, Bloomberg Financial Stability Board (FSB) Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD) and initiatives and meetings of the World Economic Forum, to accelerate private sector action towards risk-resilient societies. In this period of opportunity, ARISE as UNDRR’s private sector stakeholder group is building coalitions across key business members and other stakeholders.

The Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5-Degrees released in 2018 by the IPCC, and the US National Climate Assessment Report (November 2018) provides strong evidence for urgent action for climate adaptation and mitigation. In a world where extreme weather events will continue to increase, disaster risk-sensitive and resilient investments must be given due consideration especially in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Development Countries (LDCs) and other countries vulnerable to acute and chronic climate shocks and stresses. Risk sensitive investment must shift from a strictly cost evaluation, to an economic, social benefits including consideration of costs avoided. ARISE members are global advocates for disaster risk reduction who are keenly aware of the need for action at the national and local level; we work through national and local networks to build collaboration with the public sector and other multi-sectoral stakeholders.

Since the 2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, new ARISE networks have been formed across the world to serve as implementation hubs of resilience building and catalysts of public-private partnerships. Currently ARISE consists of more than 200 members and 12 networks in 25 countries.

ARISE Philippines has worked with high-priority groups including persons with disabilities and SMEs through targeted workshops, and successfully brought multiple public and private partners into a formal partnership known as the “National Resilience Council.” ARISE Japan encourages multi-stakeholder discussion and raises awareness of private sector best practices through their annual public symposiums, the latest entitled: “DRR and the Private Sector in the SDGs Era: From Information to Communication”. The recently established ARISE India promotes innovation and research, use of technology, tapping into traditional practices and capacity development to further DRR in the country including in the rural areas.

ARISE member businesses work individually, and collectively, towards disaster risk-resilient societies; multiple ARISE members continue to develop tools such as the Disaster Resilience Scorecard for Cities, a key toolkit of UNDRR’s Making Cities Resilient campaign. ARISE members also have issued a public health module to the Cities Scorecard, and just recently, created an Institutional and Commercial Building Scorecard to improve their resilience. ARISE members in Brazil and elsewhere work with local governments who use these innovative resilience assessment tools. An ARISE member in Mexico leads an initiative to promote business practices that build resilience in the value chain, raise awareness for risk-informed business investment and encourage the development of risk sensitive policies and practices.

Looking forward in 2019-2020, ARISE members will work with the Public Sector to promote the following elements for reform towards creating risk resilient societies:

1. **Apply the Build Back Better principle** and **Build Better from the Start** to all aspects of planning, development, recovery and reconstruction – from building codes to government tenders and contracts.
2. **Create incentives for businesses to invest** in ex-ante, longer‐term risk reduction and resilience. At the same time, remove legal and other regulatory barriers that prevent such investment or, worse, drive continued risk-blind investment.
3. **Take a holistic, integrated approach** **to invest in key infrastructure** by engaging

stakeholders at national, state and local levels to comprehensively address requirements and drive more resilient capital investments.

1. **Engage in discussions with businesses before, during and after disasters** to ensure private resources and expertise are mobilized in support of effective disaster risk management.
2. **Promote the benefits and value of resilience to consumers** and extend

training to increase public awareness. Without this awareness, risk reduction and pro‐

resilience policies will be less effective, and

1. **Harness the potential of data and technology for** effective implementation of resilience

and risk reduction measures.

In closing, the necessity for public and private sector collaboration has never been greater, as disasters induced by natural and man-made hazards increase in frequency and intensity and threaten our social, economic and financial systems. The magnitude of societal costs requires a coordinated effort between the public sector, the private sector (private and financial sector, big businesses and small businesses, business and industry alike), academia and other stakeholders in an inclusive, transparent approach to achieve disaster risk reduction. ARISE, ARISE local networks, and ARISE members are here as your private sector partner. By working together, we will deliver significant results to create risk resilient communities.