



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

STATEMENT BY

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PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE**

**PRESENTED AT THE SIXTH GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

13 - 17 MAY, 2019, GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Chairperson;
Heads of States and Governments;
Honourable Ministers;
Distinguished Delegates;
Ladies and Gentlemen;

On behalf of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, I would like to express my delegation's sincere appreciations to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and the Government of Switzerland for the excellent organization of this conference and for their warm welcome and hospitality.

Chairperson,

United Republic of Tanzania wishes to re-affirm its commitment to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and further commits itself to continued regional dialogue and action through this global platform and beyond.

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania in collaboration with relevant stakeholders has continued to priorities, pro-poor budgeting with the aim of reducing vulnerability and improving resilience of our diverse economy and communities from various hazards. In the past two years, progress has been made in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - 2030 in various sectors under the coordination of the Prime Minister's Office through the Disaster Management Department. In its continued efforts to strengthen coordination mechanism in 2017, the Government has developed Disaster Management Regulations.

Chairperson,

Climate and weather related hazards are increasing in frequency and intensity, exacerbating disasters and impeding progress towards sustainable development. These hazards include floods, drought, pests, epidemics, fire, accidents, strong winds, landslides, earthquakes, technological disasters and recently tropical cyclone along the coastal areas.

We therefore, acknowledge the importance of investment in climate change adaptation and improvement on natural resource management for resilient communities. In this regard, efforts have been made to enable farmers to improve productivity and enhance their incomes through improved access and use of agricultural knowledge, technologies, marketing systems and infrastructure in this important sector which employs about 70% of the population.

Chairperson,

Tanzania has also attained considerable achievements in improving safety in transport sector, through legal establishment of new bodies for maritime and land transportation administration and progress in air and railway transportation. Furthermore, progress has been made in rural water supply and sanitation with the focus of reducing disaster risk of vulnerable populations.

In the health sector, the government has prioritised investment in rural areas, where the large number of population lives through the increase of medical supplies, staff training, construction of health facilities, for improved resilience to diseases as well as strengthening of disaster

responses. Additionally, measures have been taken to manage forest fire outbreaks through the development of fire warning communication systems for protected farm and forest.

Achievement has also been noted on weather forecast whose accuracy now stands at 87 percent. Currently, efforts are geared towards investment in multi-hazard, impact based and people centered early warning systems.

Chairperson,

Tanzania is concerned over the country's vulnerability to disasters, and more so on inadequate mechanisms and capacity to build resilience, to prepare for such events if predictable, and respond to the people's needs in an effective manner once the disaster has taken place. Disaster risk management requires understanding the nature of different types of hazards, vulnerabilities and level of exposure. We would like to see more emphasis placed on understanding of disaster risks, disaster risk reduction and management to build resilience for sustainable development, particularly on the improvement of poor people livelihoods.

Chairperson,

On the implementation of the Sendai Framework, my delegation would like to emphasize the need to strengthen regional cooperation and technical and financial support for disaster risk profiling and developing national and local strategies for disaster risk reduction which are the means for facilitating integration of disaster risk in the implementation

of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

Chairperson,

In conclusion, I would like to assure you the highest commitment of the United Republic of Tanzania in ensuring that we continue to build a disaster resilient nation while contributing to the regional and global exchanges, facilitation and promotion of disaster reduction and adaptation to climate change.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION.