



**SESSIONS REPORTING TEMPLATE (Building on Chair' Summary sections)**

Date
24 May 2017
Title of the Session
Special Session for Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction
<b>Recording Reference Number:</b> GP17SS1
Name of co-chairs
Mr. Shigeki Habuka, Vice-Minister for Policy Coordination of Cabinet Office, Japan  Hon. Ms. Lourdes Tibán, member of the National Parliament of ECUADOR and UN Special Envoy for Indigenous People  Mr. Aris Papadopoulos, Founding Chair of the UNISDR Private Sector Advisory Group, now the ARISE Private Sector Alliance for Disaster Resilient Societies
Name of UNISDR Focal Point and Rapporteur sending this summary report
Sarah Wade-Apicella
Summary of the main <b>substantive considerations expressed</b> , clustered around the 4 Sendai Priorities and the 5 areas of special focus of the Chair’s Summary Skeleton, as applicable
<i>Priority 1 – Understanding disaster risk</i>
<i>Priority 2 – Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk</i>
<i>Priority 3 – Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience</i>
<i>Priority 4 – Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction</i>
<p>1. The urgency of ensuring preparedness and recovery plans are risk-informed by 2020 is key to achieving target (e). This calls for risk-informed thinking and actions in early response and in pre-disaster recovery planning. In order to achieve the targets, it was noted that the community level in particular must be sensitized to understand all the dimensions of disaster risks, with focus on enhancing the capacities of communities to actually participate and take ownership of preparedness and “Build Back Better”.</p> <p>2. It was stressed that the multi stakeholder platforms for policy dialogue both at the national and local levels be effective for this collaboration in order to share roles and responsibilities among stakeholders in planning for preparedness and “Build Back Better”. This may require new structures or enhancing enhancement of existing structures, such as establishing or strengthening multi-stakeholder National and Local Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction. Including the science community as key players to exchange and strengthen these platforms was suggested. It was additionally noted that there remains a gap in the participation of civil society and the private sector, which must be strengthened.</p> <p>3. In order to “Build Back Better” the importance of preparing a policy framework and legal system for</p>



reconstruction before an event was reiterated (pre-disaster recovery planning embedded under policy framework). The importance of and call for consumer education on the benefits of resilience was also highlighted.

4. Participation of all stakeholders, including citizens, in preparedness planning and the process of formulating reconstruction plans was recommended and noted as important for smooth implementation. The engagement of women, persons with disabilities and different functional needs, and indigenous people considering their customs and linguistic need, must be secured. Therefore, it was recommended to adopt an “All of Us” approach under the principle “nothing about us without us.” In order to support this, one recommendation is to work closely with actors addressing climate change to establish accessibility protocols. It was further recommended to collect disaggregated data on persons with disabilities, different function needs, the indigenous and their needs.

5. International cooperation for disaster risk reduction was pronounced. A large-scale disaster might be beyond the capacity of one country, and in many cases, damage itself, goes beyond boundaries. Promotion of regional and global cooperation will be essential to prepare for and respond to such situations, in particular as hazards know no borders. Cooperation must not only be international, but regional.

6. The cost and benefit of investing in DRR must be done and targeted to Ministers of Finance and political decision makers in general. With regard to financing disaster response and prevention actions, there was a call for a “reality check”, as the gross majority of investment still goes to response. It was recommended to establish predictable financing mechanisms with increasing investment towards more equal spending on disaster risk reduction and response, such as the EU goal of 50/50 ratio in funding, as well as integrating response and recovery into humanitarian funded projects. Finally, it was predictable financing must be secured, in particular from the private sector.

7. Despite a lot of progress in preparedness, it was proclaimed that early response and disaster risk reduction is above all something that has to happen at local level under the principle “as local as possible, and as international as necessary.”

*Areas of Special Focus*

a. Monitoring the Sendai Framework implementation

b. Achieving target E – Substantively increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020

It was recognized that enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction is important for achieving the global targets in Sendai Framework. In particular, the urgency of ensuring preparedness and recovery plans are risk-informed by 2020 is key to achieving target (e). This calls for risk-informed thinking and actions in early response and in pre-disaster recovery planning.

c. Coherence with the sustainable development and climate change agendas

In preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” It was highlighted that disaster risk reduction policies should be implemented in coherence with policies for "Sustainable Development Goals" and "Climate Change". This, too, will require new or enhanced collaboration and capacity development across sectors.

d. Gender-sensitive and inclusive disaster risk reduction

Participation of all stakeholders, including citizens, in preparedness planning and the process of formulating reconstruction plans was recommended and noted as important for smooth implementation. The engagement of women, persons with disabilities and different functional needs, and indigenous people considering their customs and linguistic need, must be secured. It was recommended to adopt an “All of Us” approach that prescribes “nothing about us without us”. In order to support this, one recommendation is to work closely with actors addressing climate change to establish accessibility protocols. It was further recommended to collect disaggregated data on persons with disabilities, different function needs, the indigenous and their needs.

e. International cooperation initiatives, including what is expected from the UN System



## Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

22-26 May 2017 - Cancun, Mexico

International cooperation for disaster risk reduction was pronounced. A large-scale disaster might be beyond the capacity of one country, and in many cases, damage itself, goes beyond boundaries. Promotion of regional and global cooperation will be essential to prepare for and respond to such situations, in particular as hazards know no borders. Cooperation must not only be international, but regional.

Key, **precise, specific actions points, recommendations**, with expected timeframes, as summarized by the Co-chairs when closing the session (no worth in repeating what already agreed to in the Sendai Framework)

Call for review and comment on three interim consultative versions of Words into Action practical guidance for implementing the Sendai Framework Priority 4, as well as strengthening communities of practice to contribute to the continuous update of such guidance.

(i.) an Introductory Capstone on enhancing preparedness for effective response

<http://www.preventionweb.net/go/53347>

(ii.) a Concise guide to simulation exercise

<http://www.preventionweb.net/go/53348>

(iii.) a Guideline for “Build Back Better” in recovery

<http://www.preventionweb.net/go/53213>

Specific **Commitments** expressed by any of the participants