



STATEMENT

BY

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AT

THE GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

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PROTOCOLS:

I feel greatly honored to address this important gathering of the Sixth Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. I also appreciate the opportunity avail for us to exchange ideas with respected colleagues from different part of the world.

Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives have been a vital instrument for building a safe and more sustainable future in the globe we live today.

In spite of all the challenges for the disaster ridden society of ours, we are committed in Nigeria in strengthening our DRR activities, and join the global efforts to implement the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, which include the implementation of plans and procedures to achieve its targets for reducing disaster losses. This is an opportunity to making the world a safer and more resilient place for future generations.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, we have commenced efforts to addressing inadequate capacities on risk identification, monitoring and assessment (RIMA), through the formulation of a national manual which we intend to implement at all levels of government, (From the smallest unit of community to federal level).

The devastating flood disasters, ongoing insurgency in the North Eastern States of Nigeria and spread of health epidemic have proved beyond doubt that Nigeria requires support to improve capacities for disaster risk management, preparedness and effective recovery.

The 2018 flood in Nigeria has challenged us to improve the way we do things, the declaration of a National Disaster made us to support the states through the establishment of five (5) territorial Emergency Operations centers (EOCs) and national emergency operation centers. We are not resting on our oars, but are forging ahead to sustain a befitting EOCs and National Emergency Management Centre (NEMC) for Nigeria.

Further to the efforts made, a recovery process has commenced and have started the implementation of an emergency food intervention to farmers affected by conflicts and the 2018 floods. This is an initiative by His Excellency, The President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari. This intervention aims to provide seeds/seedlings and Agrochemicals to about 241,200 affected farmers, with the view to meet up with the 2019 planting season and avoid possible food insecurity in the country.

As part of the way forward, we will continue to develop the capacity of staff to ensure that all principles and practices of disaster risk management are institutionalized.

I would like to at this point, Mr Chairman, appreciate the Government of United States of America, through USAID for partnering with NEMA in the capacity development of its staff. It is noteworthy that the first training on Emergency Operation Centre, Design Management and Incident Command System which was conducted in February 2018, provided the needed pivot and was instrumental to our successful response to the 2018 flood.

One significant step towards strengthening disaster risk management has been the formulation of a **National Disaster Risk Management Policy**, a document we have produced and will be launching very soon. This has been made possible through the immense support of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

We appreciate all our development partners and International NGO's, our able partner The Nigerian Red Cross and the various civil society organizations who have made the task of risk management in Nigeria, result oriented.

Mr. Chairman, Thank you for this privilege to address this august gathering. I wish all of us successful deliberations.

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