

**Welcome speech of the head of the Siberian regional center  
S. L. Didenko at the conference of Ministers of Asian countries on disaster  
risk reduction**

(Ulan Bator, July 4, 2018.)

Dear Mr. Enkhtuvshin!

Dear colleagues!

Representing the delegation of the Russian Federation, I would like first of all to associate myself with the words of gratitude to the government of Mongolia and the United Nations office for disaster reduction for organizing today's event and for the opportunity to discuss at such a high level the measures taken by our countries and emergency agencies in the field of public safety.

In recent years, the world, including the Asian region, has witnessed many emergencies, catastrophes and natural disasters. This is a topical issue of our time, which bears a global international character and requires the consolidation of efforts of all States and international organizations to protect the population and territories.

The Sendai framework programme for disaster risk reduction for 2015-2030 has made a significant contribution to the development of national systems for the prevention and elimination of emergency situations and has contributed to the strengthening of international cooperation in this area.

In recent years, Russia has paid high attention to the problems of public protection and risk management of emergency situations. The national platform for disaster risk reduction has been created within the framework of the Unified state system for prevention and elimination of emergency situations. The core and coordinator of this platform is the Russian Ministry for emergencies. An increasing number of people and non-governmental organizations are being involved in the achievement of the goals set for disaster risk reduction.

As practice demonstrates, in modern world emergency situations become particularly acute and comprehensively affect many spheres of life. The emergencies threaten national security and are of a cross-border, interregional or global nature, directly or indirectly damaging one or more countries.

In this regard, one of the priorities of the EMERCOM of Russia is international cooperation, including cooperation in multilateral formats.

In 2017, Russia provided humanitarian assistance to 22 countries, including the states in Asia. Operations were carried out to assist Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Vietnam, the Philippines and other countries. Humanitarian aid has been delivered to the people of Sri Lanka which was affected by floods.

An important part of the international activities of the Russian Ministry for emergencies remains the exchange of experience with foreign colleagues and the development of joint approaches to security and disaster prevention. Thus, in October 2017, the II International Congress "Global and national strategy for risk management of natural and man-made disasters" was held in Moscow. On the sidelines of the Congress, experts from 57 countries and international organizations discussed further ways of cooperation in the field of risk management and presented the national experience in the implementation of the Sendai framework.

In order to further the development of cooperation between our countries in the field of disaster risk reduction and pooling the potential of rescue services, we propose to pay special attention to the implementation of information cooperation in a constant mode, the exchange of operational information on emergency situations and the threat of their occurrence.

We believe that the experience of cooperation between Russia and Mongolia can be considered as a positive example of effective international cooperation at the level of emergency agencies. Rescue services of our countries routinely exchange operational information about the threat of emergency situations of natural, anthropogenic or bio-social nature. Our agencies collaborate to struggle with emergency situations in the border regions, and we also cooperate in the field of training of specialists.

I am confident that this event will enhance interaction and set new challenges for the accelerated achievement of global and regional goals in the field of disaster risk reduction.

I thank you for the floor.

I wish you all successful work at the Conference!