

Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) Statement to 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

Chair, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen: On behalf of the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) programme, we are pleased to participate in the 2018 Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. We would like to thank the Government of Mongolia and the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction for organising this important conference.

IRDR has five points as its Statement to the Ministerial Conference.

Firstly, IRDR is fully committed to advance the implementation of the Sendai Framework and reducing disaster risks and will further strengthen partnership with UNISDR global and regional Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) and ASTAAG in promoting integrated disaster risk research. IRDR recognizes the importance of the coherence and the need for mutual reinforcement through implementation actions between the Sendai Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement.

Secondly, as one of the leading international scientific programmes in DRR since 2010, IRDR is dedicated to strengthening the critical role of science and technology as well as innovation for disaster risk reduction. Under a co-sponsorship of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the International Social Science Council (ISSC) now have merged as the International Science Council (ISC), and funded by the Chinese Association for Science and Technology, IRDR aims to empower the States and communities to address the challenges of disaster risk by more effective and integrated sciences and technologies, by improving the knowledge base on DRR and by strengthening the interface between STI and policy. IRDR supports therefore the Science Technology Roadmap and opens dialogues on integrated science technology innovation on DRR. Moreover, IRDR continues to contribute to the International Science Council's leading role in the Science and Technology group for the 2019 Global Platform in Geneva.

Furthermore, IRDR wants to underline the importance of an inter-disciplinary approach in DRR, and will advance its mission to develop trans-disciplinary, multi-sectorial alliances for in-depth, practical disaster risk reduction research and studies, and the application of their significant findings to relevant policies, plans and practices for risk reduction and resilience building. Over last 8 years, IRDR has produced a number of practical outputs, including guidance for forensic investigation of disasters, on standardising peril classification and the collection of comparable data on disaster losses, on governance in disaster risk management and how decisions makers and ordinary citizens make decisions in the face of risk. Additionally, IRDR through its expert groups contributes towards the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction.

And, fourthly, IRDR concurs fully with UNISDR and many countries that it is the high priority to increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, a crucial step in the implementation of the Sendai Framework. In the Asian region and at the country level, IRDR has cooperated with its National Committee in China,

Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Nepal and the Republic of Korea to further develop important links between the national disaster risk reduction platform and activities within an international framework into an integrated effort to address the accumulation and reduction of risks. At the regional and local levels, IRDR's International Centres of Excellence in China, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan and Thailand has and will continue to support regional and different research foci for the IRDR programme. For instance, the research focus of the centre in Malaysia is disaster risk and climate extremes, and another centre in Nepal focuses on national society for earthquake technology. IRDR and its partners call for integrated research as part of national strategies to reduce disaster risk that brings multiple fields together in joint projects and with shared outputs.

Our last but surely not the least point is that, in the view of IRDR, collaboration is the central key to achieve success. IRDR's main body, IRDR Scientific Committee, appointed by a consensus of the co-sponsors ISC and UNISDR, represents an integrated science expertise for SFDRR. IRDR has developed a global network through 13 National Committees, 16 International Centres of Excellence, 1 Regional Committee and 115 IRDR young scientists that supports IRDR's research initiatives at regional, national and local levels. IRDR will continue such networking of expertise, knowledge and action as its critical contribution to SFDRR. In this direction, IRDR recognises in particular the important role of young scholars and the great need for improving knowledge transfer through training and education programmes, therefore look forward to a joint effort with the countries and with different partners on workshops, training activities, youth fora and new DRR education programmes at universities and schools.

Thank you for your attention.