

Statement by Head of Delegation of Nagasaki University

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Mr. President, Excellencies, distinguished delegates, thank you for the opportunity to address you on behalf of Nagasaki University, Japan.

The Nagasaki University has a demonstrated level of commitment to international partnership and capacity building relevant for the promotion of public health related preparedness and recovery work of the Sendai Framework for DRR in the following areas:

- A. Research in Tropical / Infectious Diseases
- B. Research in Radiation Medical Science
- C. Research in Marine biology and Ecology

Since 1945, Nagasaki University has accumulated lessons and knowledge and contributed to development of the framework of the national disaster risk reduction plan in the field of nuclear and radiation hazards.

The University is highly competent for diagnosis and use of hazardous radiation exposure based on results provided by clinical research and molecular epidemiology. Led by its Atomic Bomb Disease Institute, it carries out various collaborative projects relating to medical care not only of atomic-bomb survivors, but also of international radiation-exposed victims (Hibakusha) such as the post-Chernobyl medical cooperation and health care services in Semipalatinsk in Kazakhstan.

The 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami severely damaged the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. The large radioactivity released into the environment induced multi-hazard disasters on human livelihood and ecosystem in the Fukushima Prefecture. Following the NPP accident, Nagasaki University has provided the affected communities with emergency assistance as well as medium-and long-term assistance in their recovery and reconstruction: the case of Kawauchi Village located less than 30 km from FDNPP is most revealing in that it is the first municipality where the evacuees were authorized to return and have successfully set about to reconstruction despite the fact that almost all the residents had undergone the evacuation due to radiation risks caused by FDNPP' meltdown.

Nagasaki University, as one of the five institutions designated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (established in summer 2015) as Nuclear Disaster Medical Care/General Support Centers and Advanced Radiation Emergency Medicine Support Centers, has contributed to

elaboration of preparedness and evacuation guidelines for local communities against nuclear disasters arising out of future NPP accidents.

Furthermore, to foster competent professionals able to engage in the protection and recovery of radiated evacuees' health, the University established a joint master's course programme on disaster and radiation medical sciences with the Fukushima Medical University starting in April 2016.

The lessons learned from Chernobyl and Fukushima clearly indicates the importance of not only preparedness and response to acute radiation exposure, but also of low-dose rate radiation exposure for the public, including both evacuees and non-evacuees which involves a huge number of population. It entails: (i) Comprehensive and continuing health check-up of all Individuals to evaluate the health effects due to radiation exposure; (ii) A paradigm shift from safety principle based on radioactive doses, to tackling with societal factors e.g. social, environmental and psychological impacts on the affected population of both the nuclear accident and countermeasures; (iii) The reliable and credible crisis and post-crisis risk communication with the affected inhabitants to directly address their concerns; and (iv) Development of professional capacity in the field of disaster and radiation exposure medical science within national DRR plans.

Lessons learned from this experience will serve as a tangible basis for future multidisciplinary assistance policies, not only for Fukushima but also any other local communities in the world in strengthening measures of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery against nuclear and radiological emergencies.

Finally, Mr. President, I should wonder how ISDR can implement its mandate for nuclear radiation disasters. March 2015, the Sendai Framework (Para.15) confirmed ISDR's mandate to: Deal with nuclear and radiological hazards; Apply to nuclear radiation DDR the indicators of global targets of the Sendai Framework recommended as part of SDG indicators by the Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Indicators relating to DDR (A/71/644, P.20); and Promote a multi-hazard approach to disaster through "The Bangkok Principles for the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework" addressing radiation hazards.

There are very few countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies to address acute, chronic, and direct and indirect impacts of nuclear disasters. Unless Member States promote intensive science-policy interface under the aegis of ISDR to promote a national multi-hazard disaster risk management drawing on evidence-based lessons from local communities of Fukushima the chance of achieving the Target E of the Sendai Framework to substantially increase the number of countries with truly safe and secure national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020.

We urge the AMCDRR to:

- Be actively seized with nuclear and radiological disaster risk reduction issues and remain committed to networking and exchanging views among member states and relevant multi-stakeholders on them;
- Unleash global momentum for governments and multi-stakeholders to establish an International Recovery Platform for nuclear disasters on the model of the IRP advocated in the Hyogo Framework for Action.

Thank you.