

OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY H.E. MR. ENKHTUVSHIN ULZIISAIKHAN
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER OF MONGOLIA

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Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Chairperson,

Your Excellences, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Government of Mongolia and myself, I congratulate the Government of Switzerland and the UNDRR with successful organization of the Global Platform for DRR.

We live in the era when the governments are prioritizing the sustainable development over rapid economic growth.

And the focus of our disaster risk management policies is concentrated on prevention from disaster risk to enable achieving the global agendas on sustainable development, disaster risk management and climate change at national and regional levels.

On behalf of the Government of Mongolia, allow me to share our standpoint on policy priorities for disaster risk reduction as guidelines for all stakeholders.

First, we must prioritize the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2030 and Paris Agreement on Climate Change at local, national and regional levels. We must work towards producing actual results which impact on enhanced livelihood and better protection of humankind.

Second, recent disasters and their consequences have shown us the crucial importance of stressing out our efforts towards building disaster resilient communities and infrastructure. I believe you all agree that investments made for disaster prevention drastically reduce human, financial and environmental losses. Furthermore, it is of vital significance to engage all stakeholders to ensure that everyone is provided with knowledge and equipped with practical skills to save oneself and neighbors as the fundamental basis for effective disaster prevention.

Third, national governments are responsible for safe and harmonious livelihood of their citizens, and our policies must create at most favorable environment to enable all stakeholders' engagement in disaster risk management. In other words, our partners in private sector,

international organizations, local and regional communities, civil society, academia, and others must undertake actual commitments as government's reliable and strong hand to outreach to everyone to strengthen disaster resilience of our nations.

Fourth, empowering local and regional governments has become the triggering challenge in building disaster resilient communities. Statistical data of disaster impacts shows heartbreaking evidences of bigger and deeper losses in local level – villages, small settlements, remotely located communities. For, we must undertake concrete measures to create comprehensive local platforms on DRR, which are championed by local governments with engagement of all local stakeholders and aimed at reducing disaster risk and vulnerability at local levels.

Fifth, I want to emphasize the invaluable contribution of all development partners in strengthening national and regional DRR platforms, which is translated in enhanced disaster preparedness of local communities and in strengthened disaster risk management system. Lessons learnt from long-term partnership of governments and international and regional development organizations show that we must have better communications on both sides in regard to development and DRR policies and actions to avoid duplication or miss out matters in our joint efforts to achieve better disaster risk management.

On behalf of the Government of Mongolia, which co-hosted 'Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR' with UNDRR last year in Ulaanbaatar under the theme 'Preventing disaster risk – protecting sustainable development', I express our confidence that the Global Platform in Geneva will competently fulfill its mission to contribute to multi-stakeholders' discussions to bring out tangible, doable and realistic initiatives to enable achieving sustainable development by preventing disaster risk.

Thank you for your attention!