

## **Conclusion**

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2003 examined and discussed, among others, the status of disasters, achievements and challenges in disaster reduction for the strengthening of disaster reduction capacity in Asia with a view to develop guidelines for the implementation of effective disaster reduction measures for the forthcoming decade.

The Chairperson's Summary demonstrates the challenges to be further examined and the recommendations to be implemented in order to build a safer world in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The issues are to be continuously examined and discussed by the participants and other relevant organizations and individuals and the implementation process must be participated by all sectors and disciplines of the community, such as local and national governments, the private sector, NGOs, and all other driving actors. The outcome of the Conference will be reflected in the regional and thematic events mentioned in the Aide-Memoire as well as in other relevant events to be organized in 2004-2005.

The review of the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action initiated by the United Nations Inter-Agency Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR), which was the main theme of the Conference, will be the major task for the international community during the years 2003 and 2004.

Japan is committed in the process and intends to contribute substantially and substantively in implementing the review of the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action in close coordination and cooperation with the United Nations and member countries, including the holding of the final consolidating event in 2004/2005.