

## **Conclusion**

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2004, following up to the outcome of the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2003 held in Kobe on 15-17 January 2003 and other relevant events, further discussed and examined the status of disaster reduction in Asia with a view to developing guidelines for the implementation of effective disaster reduction measures for the forthcoming decade. It was emphasized that countries from the region should promote a comprehensive, integrated and strategic approach to disaster reduction, such as the Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) approach, and should integrate it in their national development process. The participants of the Conference identified the achievements made, challenges and gaps that lie in the region in developing and implementing effective disaster reduction activities, which are described in the Chair Summary .

This Conference was held as a contribution to the preparatory process towards the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Reduction to be held in Kobe-Hyogo, Japan on 18-22 January 2005. The organizers are confident that this event provided a unique platform to identify challenges and concrete future action to mitigate the negative impact of disasters, in particular in Asia, by way of important and substantive input to the World Conference.