

Professor Shigoru Itoh, Chairman of ADRC

Mr. Koji Suzuki, Executive Director of ADRC

Mr. Jerry Velasquez, Regional Coordinator of UN ISDR for Asia and the Pacific

Ladies and gentlemen,

The 2008 Asian Disaster Reduction Conference has concluded its three-days meetings.

On behalf of the Government of Indonesia, Minister for Research and Technology and Chairman of National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), I would like to thank all participants who have come from various parts of the Asian region for their active participation during the whole Conference. A special thank for the hard work of the Conference organizers:

- the Government of Japan,
- the Asian Disaster Reduction Centre,
- United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)
- and also, for the provision of supports from:
 - UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery
 - United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and
 - World Meteorological Organization.

Through this Conference, we learnt that we all have made significant progress in the implementation of Hyogo Framework for Action; but yet, we are also sharing common challenges, and one of them is about making improvement and strengthening disaster risk reduction measures that we already have up to this point. Having the fact that we do share common challenges have led us to a better understanding that we do need to synergize our efforts in the region and work hand in hand to overcome those challenges and to make our region a safer place from disasters.

Another issue that is of great concerns and threats to humanitarian situation to all of us is the issue of climate change. By strengthening and improving our disaster risk reduction implementation, we should be able to better adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Constructive proposals that we have made through this Conference, that are:

- a) Public Private Partnership
- b) Science and technology for disaster risk reduction
- c) Public awareness and education and
- d) Community-based disaster risk reduction

would actually be crucial inputs to the next Ministerial Conference, which will take place in the first week of December in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Let me conclude my closing speech here and to all participants and organizers of the Conference, I wish each one of you great success and safe trip back to your home country!

I hope you have a nice memory during your stay in Bali and I apologize if there are any inconveniences during your visit to Indonesia.

See you in the next Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan in 2010.

Thank you for your attention.

Sugeng Triutomo
Deputy Chairman
For Disaster Prevention and Preparedness BNPB