

***Dear colleagues!***

- On behalf of the Kazakh delegation, I would like to thank the organizers of Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction - Azerbaijan and Japanese Governments, Asian Center on Disaster Reduction and personally Minister for emergency situations Mr. Kyamaleddin Geydarov for the invitation and wonderful conditions provided for effective work.
- The adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction has become the basis for a new stage in the development of states in ensuring the protection of citizens, economies and environmental balance.
  - Republic of Kazakhstan actively implements the tasks envisaged by all four priorities.
  - Please let me report on the progress made by Kazakhstan in the implementation the first and second priorities of the Sendai Framework.

**Priority 1. Understanding Disaster Risk.**

- Active work to enhance the system on collection and analysis of practical information on current threats and occurred emergency situations is being taken.
  - In Kazakhstan, the practice to draft Security Passports of regions (*at the level of regions/oblasts and districts*) has been developed where the risks of natural and man-made disasters occurrence, also possible losses among the population, the susceptibility of buildings and structures to destruction are calculated. The list of organizational measures and material resources necessary to provide timely and quality assistance to the victims is determined as well.

These documents are updated once a year.
  - In the current year, forms of providing urgent information on losses and risks as a result of disasters are envisaged. Necessary amendments to the forms of informational cards to account for disaggregated data on sex, age and disability were made.
- Free and open access to information on disaster risks, occurred disasters, and to the rules of behavior of the population in the event of a threat and the occurrence of accidents and catastrophes.

All necessary information for the population available on the Internet portal "open government" with a systematic update, and on the Internet resource of the Ministry of Internal Affairs as well.

- In our country, there is a well-developed system for raising awareness among government officials of all levels, civil society organizations, residents and volunteers, and the private sector through experience exchange, practical lessons, and training and education on disaster risk reduction.

At the national level, annually **1,105** representatives of central and local executive authorities, heads of business structures who are trained at the Republican Educational and Methodological Center for Civil Protection, at the expense of public funds. They are involved in disaster prevention and response activities.

At the local level, annually more than **15, 000** people are provided for practical training in the Departments for Emergency Situations of the regions.

At the end of the course, attendees receive certificates of completion of training or retraining courses in the civil protection field.

- For the first time in Kazakhstan, the Law "On Voluntary Activities" was adopted **On December 30, 2016**. It provides the expansion of the population's role in activities on prevention and elimination of the aftermath of disasters, providing assistance to people affected by natural disasters, and other categories and groups of people who are in need of outside help and support.

- An important fact is that by this Law one of the basic principles of volunteer activity is the provision of safety of life and health of volunteers by the state.

- The work done to raise awareness of the risks among children should be noted separately.

In 2016, Kazakhstan has developed and introduced methodological recommendations on the organization of classes with children in disaster preparedness in order to use in educational institutions.

For the last two years, **8** social videos on the safety of children had been prepared. За последние два года подготовлено **8** социальных видеороликов по безопасности детей ("*Children's prank with fire*", "*Carbon monoxide*", "*Swimming season*", "*Falling of children from windows*", "*Natural fires*", "*Safe ice*", "*How to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning*", "*First aid for injures*"). Videos These videos are built on the principle of calling from children to adults - to teach and save the lives of children.

- A systematic broadcast of these videos on the central national TV channels ("*Kazakhstan*", "*Khabar*", "*24.kz*") is organized with the support of the Ministry of Information and Communications.

At the same time, education on disaster risk related issues, including disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, is included in compulsory formal education curricula, that means the education of children and adolescents is takes place continuously with a change in the complexity of the material depending on the age of the trainee.

## **Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk**

- Based on the objectives of the Sendai Framework, a multilateral coordination mechanism is being strengthened. So in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the functions of the national platform for disaster risk reduction are carried out by the Interdepartmental State Commission for the Prevention and Elimination of Emergency Situations. In the Law on Civil Protection its **competence** includes coordination the activities of central and local executive authorities on the prevention and elimination of emergency situations, socio-economic and legal protection, and medical rehabilitation of citizens affected by accidents, catastrophes and natural disasters.

On September 7, 2017 the composition of the Interdepartmental State Commission was expanded. In addition to its composition heads of state authorities, representatives of the business community and the Red Crescent which is the largest public humanitarian organization in our country were added. They are responsible to inform and warn the public, preserve interreligious and social stability, and to develop civil society.

- Similar commissions at the local level have been established in all regions of the country.

- It should be noted that the Law on Civil Protection explicitly provides for the duty of heads of central, local executive authorities, institutions and organizations to carry out disaster prevention activities.

- At the national level, the general directions of the development of nationwide measures aimed at prevention and elimination of natural and man-made disasters and its aftermaths, emergency medical and psychological aid to populations in the disaster zone, are stipulated in the **National Security Strategy of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2017-2020**.

At the local level, for all regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan, disaster risk reduction activities, along with economic and social

development activities, are stipulated in the **development programs for territories with an implementation period of 2016-2020**.

In these programs, the **target indicator** for disaster risk reduction has already been set, namely, "The level of provision of infrastructure for resistance to emergency situations".

- Various natural conditions of Kazakhstan predetermine the susceptibility of the country to many spontaneous phenomena: earthquakes, spring floods and rain floods, mudflows, avalanche, landslides, dangerous meteorological phenomena (*droughts, prolonged atmospheric precipitation, strong winds and snowstorms, sharp air temperature drops, glacial phenomena, dust storms*), forest (steppe) fires, human epidemics, epizootics and animal diseases.

In this regard, the Republic of Kazakhstan has decided not to develop a single plan to reduce all types of disasters, but to plan preventive measures separately. At the same time, the period of validity of planning documents varies depending on the complexity of preventive measures and the required amount of its financing.

- Thus, in order to increase the level of seismic safety of the country's settlements, the Roadmap "A set of measures to improve the efficiency of **seismic safety** of the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2016-2018" was developed in 2016.

*Reference: Approved by the joint order of the Ministries of Agriculture (from 15.02.2016 No.64), Education and Science (29.01.2016 No.118), Health and Social Development (22.02.2016 No.136), on Investment and Development ( 22.01.2016 No.44), Foreign Affairs (16.02,2016 No.11-1-2/50), National Economy (from 28.01.2016 No.36), Internal Affairs (18.01.2016 No.36), Energy (09.02.2016 No.50).*

- As a result of the flood analysis, the Roadmap "A set of measures for the prevention and removal of flood threats for the 2017-2020" which contains 862 flood control measures was prepared (*approved by the joint order of the Ministries of Internal Affairs No.264, Ministries of Energy No.218, Ministries on Investment and Development No.380, dated June 23, 2017*).

- For natural fires, mudflow hazards and snow drifts, considering the high coefficient of impact of weather conditions on the risk level of these natural disasters, and the seasonality of these threats, the planning of preventive measures are carried out annually based on short-term forecasts of the hydrometeorological service.

- **Considering the limited time given for the report**, I would like to bring briefly to the conference participants the practical results achieved in strengthening disaster risk management capacity by our country since the Sendai Framework has been adopted, and on the capacity of the government and commercial investments in disaster prevention.

- Based on the previous years' analysis on floods, a planning document, the Roadmap, was developed which provides for a set of activities and financing **until 2020** in the amount of **151 billion tenge or 446 million USD**.

Currently, in the implementation process **264** activities are being taken with total funding of **147 million USD** or **50 billion tenge**.

At the same time, in 2016 at the expense of local authorities, it was succeeded to carry out work to prevent flooding of settlements along the Nura and Esil Rivers in the central part of Kazakhstan before the approval of this Roadmap.

As a result, previously flooded 44 settlements in the Karaganda and Akmola regions of the country were completely protected.

In addition, after the economic calculations, **737** families are being resettled from hazardous areas, **239 of them** have already been resettled in safe areas.

- At the expense of public-private partnership, the construction of **eleven 45-apartment multi-storey buildings** have been started.

**In order to protect the population in the foothill areas from mudflows, a large-scale construction of several mudflow dams and structures has been simultaneously started in Kazakhstan.**

In the list of the World Catastrophes (*published under the auspices of the UN in 1996*), **Kazakhstan** is mentioned at least 6 times due to the catastrophic mudflows in the Almaty region in the beginning and the middle of the 20th century, including in the rivers Kishi Almaty (1921, 1951, 1973), Issyk (1963) and Ulken Almaty (1950, 1977).

In order to strengthen the system of the mudflow security of the Almaty city, projects are being implemented to build two mudflow dams on the Ayusai and Aksai rivers (the total cost of the projects is **27.6 million USD** or **9.4 billion tenge**).

Along with this, the project of comprehensive protection of the **International Center for Cross-Border Cooperation "Khorgos"**, created jointly with the **People's Republic of China**, including the construction of the mudflow dam **Chukurbulak (Almaly)** on the Khorgos River (166 million USD or 56.5 billion tenge for projects Khorgos-1 and Khorgos-2, for which 7 billion tenge has been already allocated) is being implemented.

- **In conclusion**, I would like to note that despite the fact that by the middle of the century our country intends to become one of the thirty most competitive economies in the world, and now Kazakhstan has turned from an aid recipient to a donor, there are still problems which solutions are

possible only through interaction with the international community and organizations.

- So, the Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction in Almaty established in 2016 by the Governments of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan with the support of various UN programs, the Asian Center for Disaster Risk Reduction and other organizations has already been granted the status of a resource and training center within the framework of the Sendai Framework in Central Asia and the South Caucasus. Agreements and memoranda on cooperation have been signed with 50 international organizations. On the basis of the Center 30 training seminars have been organized with the invitation of leading international experts in disaster risk reduction.

At the same time, we are endeavoring to start the work on the basis of the Center for an effective scientific and technical council, which will consolidate the activities of scientific organizations dealing with the issues on reduction of level of seismic, ecological and hydrological threats, also in the fire and industrial safety field.

- We are uniquely grateful to the Japanese Government for its contribution to training our specialists on the reduction of earthquake consequences and we are extremely interested in continuation of this cooperation.

- Kazakhstan is in need of assistance in the introduction of information received online using space technologies in the activities of forecasting, emergency and rescue services.

- Like other countries in our region, the consolidation of efforts of the scientific community is needed to study the problem of glacier degradation.

Once again, I want to thank the organizers of the forum for the opportunity of direct exchange of experience between countries, and also let me assure the participants that the Republic of Kazakhstan is firmly committed to achieving all the targets set in the Sendai Framework and to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

*Thanks for your attention!*