



ADRC Highlights Vol.130

Asian Disaster Reduction Center Biweekly News

16 December 2005

- **The 12th Meeting of IATF/DR held in Geneva on 22-23 November**
- **Discussed on the next steps for the ISDR system**

The 12th session of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Disaster Reduction (IATF/DR) was held on 22-23 November 2005 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva. The main objective of the meeting was to discuss and agree on the next steps for the implementation of the Hyogo Frame for Action (HFA), including strengthen of the ISDR system. It was chaired by Mr. Jan Egeland, Under-Secretary-General (USG) for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), and co-chaired by Ms. Kathleen Cravero, Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) and Director of BCPR/ UNDP.

The ISDR secretariat as well as the IATF/DR Members, Thematic Platforms, Regional Platforms and Working Groups reported on the activities carried out since the 11th session in May to support the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for action (HFA).



The participants then discussed the work modalities of the revised ISDR system, proposed in the SG report (A/60/180) in three groups: (a) Integrated work programme to support the implementation of the HFA; (b) Common reporting process to measure progress in the implementation of the HFA; and (c) Thematic clustering for the implementation of the HFA.

An expert panel inviting renowned experts, who made detailed and insightful presentations on the lessons learned from the recent disasters, took place and a session on HFA promotion and disaster risk reduction campaigns was also held. The ample information of the above session is available at: <http://www.unisdr.org/eng/task%20force/12th-meeting-12th-eng.htm>

- **Side Event on the IRP held at the 12th IATF/DR**

A meeting on the International Recovery Platform (IRP) was held as a side event of the 12th IATF/DR, attracting the participation of about 40 experts and officials from countries and organizations. The objectives of the meeting were: (1) to report on the progress of the work plan of the three Hubs (Kobe, Geneva and Turin), (2) to present the linkages of the IRP to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Working Group on Early Recovery (WGER) as well as the application of the WGER and the lessons learned from the South Asia Earthquake, and (3) to discuss the future activities.

Following the reports on the Capacity Building activities by ILO (Turin Hub) and on the development of Needs Assessment Methodologies by UNDP (Geneva Hub), ADRC presented the Advocacy & Knowledge Management work plan (Kobe Hub) jointly implemented with the ISDR Secretariat. It was announced that a database containing good practices and lessons learned in post disaster recovery was launched and that the Book Project is being carried out to develop a cross disaster knowledge management support kit, which will be produced by analyzing recent major disasters in

the database. Prof. Ian Davis, Cranfield University, presented the approach and methodology of the Book Project as the leading editor, emphasizing the need to include all phases of disaster.

The participants expressed their interest to support the IRP such as by contributing their knowledge and expertise. For more information on the meeting, please visit the ISDR Website mentioned above and the IRP Website at: <http://www.RecoveryPlatform.org/>.

- **38th Session of the ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee held in Hanoi, Vietnam**

The 38th Session of the ESCAP/WMO Typhoon Committee (TC) was held in Hanoi, Viet Nam, on 14-19 November 2005. Hosted by the Government of Viet Nam, the Session was attended by 67 participants from 12 TC Members, and 17 agencies including ADRC. The Session aimed to review the progress made in its program and determine priority activities to be undertaken and the support required to implement them.

The Committee endorsed the following priority areas: (1) conduct of a survey on existing early warning system in the Members to be led by the Working Group on Disaster Prevention and Preparedness (WGDPP); (2) establishment of socio-economic data base for typhoon-related disasters to be led by WGDPP; (3) assessment of GTS and communication to be led by the Working Group on Meteorology; (4) study the standardization of methodology to assess socio-economic impacts of typhoon-related disasters to be led by WGH; and (5) formulation of a strategy for integrated typhoon research program. The Session also endorsed the transfer of the TC secretariat from the Philippine Government to Macao, China after a one-year transition period.

WGDPP acknowledged Town-watching for disaster reduction as a tool in developing disaster resilient communities and the promotion of the GLIDE number system to improve information sharing on disaster events. ADRC Visiting Researcher from the Philippines, Ms. Maria Go presented ADRC's role in disaster reduction focusing on its experiences on the Total Disaster Risk Management (TDRM) Approach. The next session will be hosted by the Philippine Government.

- **The 2nd Public Symposium on Post Disaster Recovery will be held on 19 January 2006**

International Recovery Platform (IRP) Kobe-Hyogo is going to hold a public symposium titled "Lessons on recovery learned from recent major disasters (tentative)" in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan from 14:00-17:15, 19 January 2006, co-organizing with Cabinet Office of Japan, Hyogo Prefectural Government, UNDP, UN/ISDR, and UN/OCHA Kobe as well as ADRC. The forum will identify the challenges faced in the recovery process of the recent major disasters. Participation to the symposium is self-supporting. Japanese-English translation will be provided. For registration, visit <http://www.recoveryplatform.org>, or email your name, organization, job title and phone/fax number to irp@recoveryplatform.org by 12 January 2006.

If you have comments or requests for this Newsletter, please write to ADRC at the address on the right.

Published by : Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC)

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