
3. Collection and Distribution of Disaster Information

3-1. ADRC Steering Committee

Steering Committee for the fiscal year 2010 of Asian Disaster Reduction Center was held on August 13 in Incheon City, Republic of Korea. Representatives of 19 member countries attended.

Mr. Tomoya Nagai, the new Director for Disaster Preparedness, Public Relations and International Cooperation, Cabinet Office of Japan, chaired the steering committee meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, he expressed sympathy to victims of recent disasters in Pakistan, China, and India and also expressed strong support to the affected governments on behalf of ADRC. The chair formally announced the Republic of Maldives as the 29th member country of ADRC, which officially joined in May 2010.

After the presentation of ADRC activities for fiscal year 2010, the member countries discussed on how to further promote ADRC activities.

3-1-1. Summary of Key Points Discussed

- A) The Steering Committee recognized the need for ADRC to further enhance capability building activities, especially those that could benefit most member countries. In this regard, key recommendations to ADRC Secretariat are the following:
- to explore developing or coordinating capability building programs on “Urban Search and Rescue” for member countries, and strengthen the capacity building program model with Singapore
 - to further enhance the Visiting Researcher program by promoting comprehensive study on comparative disaster management structures and frameworks, and analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of disaster management frameworks and structures of member countries
 - to examine the prospects of training on satellite usage for disaster risk reduction and management among member countries
 - to explore possibility of pre-arranged agreement with JICA on delivering a single-country training course relating to disaster management upon request of member country
 - to examine prospects of extending technical support based on member country’s specific needs, such as drought and water-related issues, urban planning, climate change adaptation, and other practical needs that require technical assistance
- B) The Steering Committee agreed to further diversify the sources of funds for ADRC activities. In this connection, key recommendations to ADRC Secretariat are the following:
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- to remind member countries of their annual dues
 - to strengthen partnership and explore funding support from international organizations such as JICA and UNESCAP, and relevant organizations/ companies in Japan such as JAXA
- C) The Steering Committee also outlined the following recommendations/ strategies to ADRC Secretariat to move priority activities forward:
- to explore the establishment of ADRC Visiting Researchers Network
 - to refocus training activities from “knowledge-based” to “practical needs-based” training
 - to further enhance visibility of ADRC activities in member countries
 - to serve as coordinating body to facilitate country-to-country sharing of information and technologies
 - to examine the existing Incident Command Systems (ICS) of member countries, and study the impact of introducing a new ICS
 - to further enhance information sharing activities, particularly in the area of early warning systems
 - to coordinate and link up with organizations that deliver DRR-related capability building activities
- D) The Steering Committee also noted the following announcements during and after the meeting:
- The Republic of Maldives was formally welcomed as the 29th member country of ADRC
 - The ACDR 2011 will be hosted by Sri Lanka in June
 - Member countries were invited to submit entries to the first Asian Film Festival on Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be organized by GFDR at the 4th AMCDRR scheduled on 25-28 October 2010
 - The next Steering Committee meeting will be organized back to back with ACDR 2011 in Sri Lanka
 - A note from Myanmar was received after the meeting, stating the following recommendations to further improve ADRC activities: (a) to initiate regular conduct of ADRC Peer Meetings to further promote coordination, and (b) to explore possibility of providing training on DRR at the community level



Fig. 3-1-1-1 Steering Committee meeting