

### **5-3. Promoting Cooperation with Member Countries, International Organizations and NGOs**

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) places high priority on the development of institutional and personal network to share disaster information in the Asia region. Developing personal networks between professionals and their counterparts in member countries, adviser countries, and observer organizations is vital to promoting cooperation on disaster reduction efforts in Asia. Therefore, the ADRC invites management level officials, including deputy directors, directors, and managers, to its annual ADRC International Meeting to encourage interpersonal exchanges.

#### **(1) 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction**

The ADRC participated in the 6th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (6th AMCDRR) held in Bangkok, Thailand from 22 to 26 June 2014. The conference participants included more than 3,000 delegates, ministers, and top government officials, as well as UN agencies, international organizations, and NGOs. The objectives of this conference were to generate stronger political commitment for and investments in disaster risk management among the nations of Asia, and to stimulate discussions around the formulation of a post-2015 framework for DRR in preparation for the upcoming 3rd WCDRR to be held in Sendai, Japan. ADRC also helped arrange several side events and facilitated a pre-conference meeting as follows.

##### **1) Side Event: Introduction and Demonstration of the DRR Education Tools and Efforts for Getting Wider Participation of Communities**

ADRC conducted a side event entitled "Introduction and Demonstration of the DRR Education Tools and Efforts for Getting Wider Participation of Communities" on 23 June 2014 during the 6th AMCDRR. The session aimed to introduce good practices in CBDRM, highlighting disaster education tools that have been promoted by local NGOs and local governments since the 1995 Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. It also focused on efforts to raise DRR awareness and training programs for local government officials based on lessons learned from that earthquake. The side event was also intended to facilitate discussions around how to localize such tools and efforts in other countries, and it highlighted some successful localization activities from Asia and other parts of the world.

After the introduction by ADRC, Mr. Masahiko Murata from the Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution (DRI), Mr. Nobuhito Ohtsu of the Kobe City Fire Bureau, and Dr. Ikaputra of Gadjah Mada University introduced their DRR efforts, all of which are based on lessons learned from the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. First, Mr. Murata of DRI gave a presentation entitled "Hyogo Prefecture's Effort for Capacity Development of Local Government Officials and Raising Awareness of the Public" in which he introduced the training programs targeting mayors, local government officials, and local residents, as

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well as efforts to raise public awareness. Mr. Ohtsu of Kobe City next explained "BOKOMI," a community-based disaster risk management organization that has been promoted by Kobe City since the Great Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake. He emphasized the importance of self-self and mutual-help, in addition to public help.

After these two presentations, Dr. Ikaputra of Gadjah Mada University described an example of how disaster education tools have been adapted to Yogyakarta, Indonesia. "Iza! Kaeru Caravan!" is a Japan-based disaster education and awareness raising program for children that was developed by NPO Plus Arts based in Kobe. He localized the tool and conducted the program in Indonesia, ensuring close coordination between Plus Arts and the local residents of Yogyakarta. He concluded his presentation by stressing the need for disaster education for children, as well as the importance of ensuring the beneficial application of various tools within local contexts. Lastly, Mr. David Korunic of AXA Group introduced an example of how CBDRM has been promoted by the private sector and NGOs, explaining AXA-CARE International's joint initiative for building disaster resilience in local communities in Thailand and the Philippines. At the end of the session, all the participants confirmed that there is a need for the development of good educational tools for CBDRM which are based on past experience as well as local contexts. They also highlighted the need for the well-coordinated localization of tools, as well as the benefits of involving the private sector and various stakeholders in CBDRM activities.



Fig. 5-3-1-1 Participants of the Side Event

## **2) Side Event: Promotion of DRR Initiatives in Private Sector and Strengthening Public - Private Partnership for Local Resilience Building: Towards HFA2 to be Adopted in 3rd WCDRR in Sendai**

On 25 June 2014, ADRC and the APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) co-chaired a Side Event entitled " Promotion of DRR Initiatives in Private Sector and Strengthening Public-Private Partnership: for Local Resilience Building: towards HFA2 to be Adopted in 3rd WCDRR in Sendai " Experts from ADRC, APEC EPWG, Sendai City, the Development Bank of Japan, JICA, and Mitsubishi Corporation Insurance

gave presentations on their good practices related to the these subjects.

Dr. Wei-Sen Li from the APEC EPWG gave a presentation on surveys on BCP status, BCP Guidelines for SMEs, and relevant training activities in the APEC region. Sendai City Vice Mayor, Mr. Yukimoto Ito introduced projects involving collaboration with the private sector, civil society organizations, and communities such as disaster-resilient town planning and the formation of agreements with the private sector regarding logistics and evacuation in times of disaster. Sendai City was recognized as a Role Model in the 2010-2015 World Disaster Campaign "Making Cities Resilient" and will host the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015. Mr. Tadao Hasue, Deputy General Manager, and Ms. Kumi Onuma, Associate, Tohoku Branch, Development Bank of Japan gave a presentation on their region-wide plans and activities targeting the Tohoku Region including the establishment of the Tohoku Alliance, a Tohoku - based platform for a flexible alliance among diverse entities in Japan and abroad for knowledge and information sharing. JICA Senior Advisor Dr. Hitoshi Baba introduced JICA's new concepts of "Area BCP" and "Area BCM," which refer to a scalable cross-sector coordination framework for disaster management for business continuity. He also outlined how these are being applied in a pilot project in industrial clusters in the ASEAN region. Mr. Takahiro Ono of Mitsubishi Corporation Insurance then commented on the importance of improving disaster resilience of both private sector enterprises and local governments, and on strengthening community-wide networks to ensure that the best actions are taken. Finally, ADRC Executive Director Mr. Kiyoshi Natori summarized the discussions to conclude the event.



Fig. 5-3-1-2 Participants of the Side Event

### 3) Pre-Conference: Satellite Data and Information to Supplement Regional and National DRR Systems and to Assist Local Communities at Risk

On 22 June 2014, JAXA and ADRC cooperated in organizing a pre-conference entitled "Satellite Data and Information to Supplement Regional and National DRR Systems and to Assist Local Communities at Risk." The purpose of this event was to share information on how satellite data and information are being used for DRR, to investigate user needs, and

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to promote the expansion of cooperative structures among operators, governments, and communities with regard to the collection and use of satellite data. This pre-conference was divided into two sessions.

The first session was on "Progress and Issues with Existing Regional and National (Coordination and Management) Initiatives and Related Access Mechanisms." Dr. Lal Samarakoon from AIT showed outcomes of the space technology session at ACDR 2014 which was held in Tokyo in March. Dr. Shirish Ravan from UNOOSA also reported on the outcomes of the ASEAN workshop, given its position as a UN-SPIDER activity. ADRC reported on regional DRR requirements and activities. Mr. Pierre-Henri Pisani from the Embassy of France in Japan explained the latest efforts in the development of an international charter to promote the use of space technologies worldwide. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Srivastava from UNESCAP mentioned harnessing regional cooperation for enhancing national capacity for disaster risk management. And representing JAXA, Mr. Chu Ishida introduced the Sentinel Asia evolution and space agencies' recommendations for HFA2. He also announced that a new satellite, the ALOS2 was launched in May 2014.

The second session was on "Working with Communities at Risk: Initiatives and Projects Devoted to the Use of Earth Observations for the Benefit of Local Communities." Good practices in the use of space technologies in DRR were reported on by Tajikistan, China, Bangladesh, and the Philippines. Professor Shunichi Koshimura from Tohoku University gave a presentation on the analysis and use of satellite images during the Great East Japan Tsunami. Mr. Hiroshi Une from the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan introduced some of the basic data developed by that organization and proposed ways that it might be developed for the DRR field. Professor Ryosuke Shibasaki from the University of Tokyo explained the use of big data and space technology for DRR.

This pre-conference was tied to the morning pre-conference which was organized by UN-SPIDER. Both organizers put together a proposal on the importance of investing in the systematic generation of products based on space-based and geospatial information.



Fig. 5-3-1-3 Participants of the Pre-conference

#### 4) Side Event: Investing in Recovery for Resilience: Articulating Recovery in HFA2

The 6AMCDRR is a biennial conference held in Asia to ensure the commitment of policymakers and stakeholders toward disaster risk reduction. At this year's event, held on 24 June in Bangkok, Thailand, the International Recovery Platform (IRP) organized a side event entitled "Investing in Recovery for Resilience: Articulating Recovery in HFA2."

Opening remarks were given by Mr. Kaoru Saito, Director of the Cabinet Office of Japan, who described how the government of Japan has been making continuous efforts to revitalize the Tohoku region since the 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Mr. Saito also discussed Japan's contributions to and preparations for the 3rd World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) and HFA2.

This side event featured panelists from diverse backgrounds, including Atty. Violeta Seva of Makati City (Philippines), Prof. Santosh Kumar of the SAARC Disaster Management Center (SDMC), Mr. Tadao Hasue and Ms. Kumi Onuma of the Development Bank of Japan (DBJ), and Ms. Ana Cristina Thorlund of the International Recovery Platform (IRP). The moderator Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Member of Parliament in Bangladesh, posed a broad question: "What will be the critical recommendations for adequately articulating recovery in HFA2?" In response, Mr. Hasue shared his insights by referring to DBJ's new initiative, the "Tohoku Alliance on Recovery," which has been widely recognized among stakeholders in Japan and beyond.

Based on all the input from the speakers and the audience, the side event participants came up with the following key recommendations:

- Institutionalize recovery functions in national and local governance systems
- Ensure financial predictability for recovery programs and activities
- Strengthen coordination of recovery actors and consider the trans-boundary nature of recovery
- Recognize human security as an essential foundation for effective recovery
- Develop concrete and measurable indicators to monitor progress toward and the achievement of recovery goals

In view of these recommendations, it was suggested that in the future, IRP might consider acting as a global mechanism for cooperation in areas where recovery is taking place. Its tasks may include providing technical support on recovery for subnational governments, contributing to the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs), offering technical support on recovery from large-scale disasters, and ensuring seamless integration of recovery in development plans.

Three key conclusions were reached at the end of the session. (1) Recovery should be adequately articulated in HFA2 so that governments can have general guidance in implementing recovery programs. (2) Recovery (seen as an opportunity to "Build Back Better") must also be aligned with sustainable development goals. (3) Recovery requires further advocacy at the policy and legislative levels to outline clear measures for monitoring progress and to clearly identify the roles of government departments and

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agencies in implementing recovery programs.

In closing, Mr. Kiyoshi Natori, Executive Director of the ADRC noted that ADRC/IRP is getting ready for the 3rd WCDRR which will provide substantial input for the development of HFA2. He successfully closed the event, which was attended by 65 participants.



Fig. 5-3-1-4 Participants of the Side Event

## 5) Final Plenary Session and the "Bangkok Declaration"

At the plenary session held on the final day of the conference, participants adopted the "Bangkok Declaration" to conclude the event. Its policy recommendations to nations and stakeholders are as follows: (1) Enhance resilience at local levels, (2) Improve public investment in disaster and climate risk management to protect and sustain development gains, (3) Promote public and private partnerships for DRR, (4) Promote science and technology, (5) Enhance governance, transparency, and accountability, (6) Contribute to the global deliberation on the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the development of an Asia-Pacific Regional HFA2 Implementation Plan, (7) Ensure that the Post-2015 Framework for DRR is consistent with sustainable development goals and climate change efforts.

## (2) 7th ECO International Conference on Disaster Risk Management

The ADRC participated in the 7th Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) International Conference on Disaster Risk Management held in Gabala, Azerbaijan on 4-5 June 2014. This conference was organized by the Ministry of Emergency Situations of Azerbaijan in cooperation with the ECO Secretariat. It provided an opportunity for delegates of ECO member states as well as experts from UN agencies, international organizations, and academic and scientific institutions to discuss and share experiences on disaster risk reduction to promote better cooperation in the ECO region. The ECO member states that are also ADRC member countries are Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan.

Following presentations and speeches by the heads of the various delegations,



organizations including UNOCHA, UNESCAP, GIZ, the Central Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences (CAIAG), and ADPC introduced their disaster risk reduction efforts in the region. ADRC gave a presentation explaining its role in Asia and highlighting the programs that might benefit member countries in Central Asia and Caucasus, namely, the Visiting Researcher Program, the JICA training for Central Asia and Caucasus, and the Peer Review Project.

At the end of the conference, the participants agreed that an integrated approach combining policy, operational, and scientific elements would facilitate more effective and efficient disaster risk management in the region. ADRC believes that this is crucial not only in this region, but also in other parts of Asia.



Fig. 5-3-2-1 Participants of the Conference

### **(3) ASEM Manila Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management “Post-Haiyan -A Way Forward” in the Philippines**

The ASEM Manila Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management “Post-Haiyan/Yolanda - A Way Forward” was hosted by the Philippines and co-hosted by Japan, the European Union (EU), and Switzerland in Manila on 4-6 June 2014. In support of the conference, ADRC sent one representative from the IRP secretariat to attend. The seminar attracted more than 280 participants including government officials from ADRC member countries, experts from across the Philippines, and delegates from EU countries.

Mr. Shingo Kouchi, ADRC Senior Expert and IRP Senior Recovery Expert gave a presentation for the Working Group entitled “Role of Stakeholders –National and Local Governments, NGOs, the Local Community, Media, and the Private Sector (Strengthening the Role of the State and other DRRM Stakeholders in Disaster Response and Coordination).”

In it, he applauded the government of the Philippines as well as the citizenry on their ability to promote multi-stakeholder approaches to effective disaster mitigation and

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prevention, as well as reconstruction and recovery. Mr. Kouchi also noted that ADRC and IRP have long been working closely with many stakeholders in the Philippines. When promoting reconstruction and recovery countermeasures after large-scale disasters like the 2014 super typhoon “Yolanda” and 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, ADRC/IRP has put particular emphasis on the concept of “building back better than before.”

The ADRC, together with the IRP, will continue striving toward the realization of disaster-resilient societies and communities across Asia by sharing Japanese technologies, experiences, and lessons learned from the past.



Fig. 5-3-3-1 Participants of the Conference

#### **(4) APEC Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (8th SDMOF)**

The 8th Senior Disaster Management Officials Forum (SDMOF), was held on August 11-12, 2014, Beijing, China. Representatives and experts from APEC economies and international agencies gathered for this forum (APEC-funded project led by China) under the theme: 'Science and technology strengthening disaster risk reduction'. Mr. Natori from ADRC participated for an emergency preparedness working group (EPWG) as co-chairmanship.

Participants shared experiences and best practices under following topics: 1) Innovative role of science and technology in disaster preparedness; 2) Science and technology strengthens efficiency in emergency response; 3) Science and technology enables rehabilitation for increased resiliency; and 4) International and regional cooperation on science and technology application for disaster risk reduction.

#### **(5) Second Regional Ministerial Conference of Disaster Management Authorities in Central Asia under the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue**

ADRC participated in the Second Regional Ministerial Conference of Disaster Management Authorities in Central Asia under the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue held



in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic on 18-19 September 2014. This conference, organized by the government of Japan, the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic, and UNDP Kyrgyzstan, aimed to discuss the possible creation of a high level forum for disaster management authorities involved in DRR under the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue. The participants included representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as the Embassy of Japan in the Kyrgyz Republic, JICA, and other international organizations.

During the conference, participants discussed the most urgent DRR issues facing the region as well as future opportunities for cooperation. ADRC presented information on the outcomes of DRR programs conducted in various Central Asian countries, and identified needs and areas for future DRR cooperation in the region.

At the end of the two-day conference, the participants agreed to establish and regularly convene a forum for the heads of the disaster management authorities in Central Asia for discussing efforts to strengthen regional cooperation in reducing, preventing, and responding to disaster risks. In addition, an expert level working group of disaster management authorities in Central Asia will be established to support this forum.



Fig. 5-3-5-1 Participants of the Conference

## **(6) The second World Reconstruction Conference (WRC 2)**

The ADRC, in cooperation with the IRP organized a number of the technical sessions at the second World Reconstruction Conference (WRC 2) in Washington D.C., 10-12 September 2014. Hosted by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), a member of IRP, the conference was aimed at building consensus on resilient recovery as an imperative for sustainable development and poverty reduction. It also discussed innovative approaches for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction to further inform the deliberation of Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.



Fig. 5-3-6-1 Group Photo

At the opening, Dr. Jim Yong Kim, President of the World Bank, emphasized the importance of including disaster risk reduction in building back better disaster recovery principles, focusing specifically on developing countries at high risk. In that regard, he expected the conference to deliberate on a way forward on disaster recovery, particularly in fragile contexts, and highlight the role of recovery in poverty reduction and shared prosperity.

The three IRP/ADRC technical sessions contributed greatly in the discussions to achieve the objectives of the conference through the recommendations from the panelists and participants. In Session 1: Making Post-Disaster Recovery Efficient and Effective: Elements of Good Recovery for Articulation in Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the recommendations to aid governments in facilitating effective recovery are as follow: (1) having stable fund for recovery; (2) using scientific information to support policy decisions; and (3) collaborative efforts among all stakeholders, including the private sector.

In Session 8: Ten Years after Tsunami: A Retrospective, the recommendations to improve recovery operations include the following: (1) ensuring speed and focus on recovery of livelihoods; (2) creating greater participation of community in recovery planning and implementation processes; (3) linking recovery from tsunami to long-term development; and (4) adopting simple measures of impacts of tsunami recovery programs.

In Session 16: Role of Private Sector in Recovery: The Case for Private Sector Engagement in Recovery for Post-2015 Framework for DRR, emphasized that private sector is a key factor in recovery because they understand the context and have the expertise to solve problems. This session recommended that private sector can be effectively engaged through the following actions: (1) providing opportunity for private sector to invest in recovery as means of sustaining businesses; (2) promoting pre-contract agreements and pre-disaster recovery planning; and (3) building long-term and sustainable relationship between public and private sector.

Included in the conference was the 15th Steering Committee meeting of IRP which mainly discussed its future role in the implementation of Post-2015 Framework for DRR as well as IRP's preparations for the International Recovery Forum in January 2015 in Kobe and World

Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015 in Sendai. One potential future role of IRP is to serve as a global mechanism for coordinating recovery policies and recovery processes.

Speakers at the closing plenary imparted key actions to move forward. Ms. Margareta Wahlstrom, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction UNISDR, outlined the following recommendations: (1) bridging the segregation gap between climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk reduction (DRR) that are exhibited in research initiatives and in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery planning; (2) reconciling response and recovery approaches for hazards and conflicts; (3) recognizing of the critical role of local governments and communities in DRR and recovery by encouraging national governments to motivate and support local responses; and (4) promoting collaboration among multi-stakeholders in recognition of the complexity of recovery process.

Ms. Rachel Kyte, Vice President and Special Envoy for Climate Change, World Bank Group, indicated that: (1) resilience is all about people: the more we understand about people the more we understand about communities and their dynamics; (2) it's not just about money: while actors need to make sure that there are finances to properly respond, governments must have the capacity to allocate, disperse, and protect funds; (3) initiatives and messages should be “practical and simple”; and (4) foster effective partnerships to reduce the burden.

Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, Member of Parliament, People's Republic of Bangladesh, delivered the Conference Statement: Strengthen Resilient Recovery and Reconstruction in the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction aimed at advancing consensus, national and internationally, on the critical role of resilient recovery for sustainable development and poverty reduction. He ended his presentation saying, “If you fail to plan, you plan to fail”.

The WRC2 will inform the next round of deliberations at the second Preparations Committee meeting in November in Geneva leading to the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan where the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction will be adopted.



Fig. 5-3-6-2 Participants of the Conference

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## **(7) The 2014 International Training Workshop on Natural Disaster Reduction**

ADRC had actively supported the 2014 International Training Workshop (ITW) which was organized by the National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), 27-31 October 2014 at the NCDR Training Center, Taipei, Taiwan. The workshop was aimed at sharing experiences and lessons on post-disaster recovery, especially from countries that experienced mega-disasters.

Along with speakers from various organizations and countries, ADRC had shared experiences on post-disaster recovery. In particular, ADRC Executive Director Mr. Kiyoshi Natori presented the "Recovery and Lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of 2011" highlighting the challenges on post-disaster recovery and how these challenges were addressed, including applying the lessons from past disasters as well as integrating the emerging lessons from current disasters such as considering the "wisdom of local community" in disaster risk reduction. Additionally, a researcher at ADRC also shared some of the existing "Tools and Guidance in Building Back Better" emphasizing ADRC's experience in disseminating knowledge on recovery.

ADRC's presentations had contributed in achieving one of the key objectives of the workshop, which is to collect, analyze, and apply trans-boundary knowledge and lessons on recovery. Based on the presentations from countries in Asia and the Pacific as well as Latin America, the elements for organizing effective recovery were identified - especially in the areas of infrastructure/housing reconstruction, livelihood revitalization, and psychosocial wellness. The sharing of knowledge and experiences was reinforced with a one-day field visit to the Chi - Chi Earthquake Museum (9.21 Museum) and Nantou County, which showcased the recovery efforts from the 1999 earthquake and the recovery of Sacred Wood Community from the 2009 Typhoon Morakot, respectively.

The 2014 ITW was an opportunity to forward collaboration and interdisciplinary discussions on post-disaster recovery. It explored actions that promote further investment in DRR and emergency preparedness through development of new technology and upgrading of infrastructures to make them more resilient.



Fig. 5-3-7-1 Participants of the Conference

## **(8) UNISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) Meeting**

### **1) April 2014**

ADRC participated in the ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting held on 22-24 April in Amari Watergate Bangkok, Thailand. Around 170 participants attended the meeting including representatives from Asian countries as well as the international and inter-governmental organizations. ADRC, with Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) made the presentation titled "Outcome of the Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2014 (ACDR2014) and Update from Sentinel Asia Project". The main contents of the meeting were as follows; (1) Preparation of the 6th Asia Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR), (2) Sustaining engagement of the stakeholder groups, (3) HFA monitoring and review: Consultation on proposed indicator system to monitor and review Post 2015 framework for DRR (HFA2).

This meeting was held as a role of preparatory meeting of AMCDRR (Bangkok) in this June and World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Sendai) in next March. This meeting discussed outcomes of HFA in Asia region, and inputs toward the "Post-HFA".

### **2) December 2014**

ADRC joined the 2nd ISDR Asia Partnership (IAP) meeting which was held on 2 - 4 December 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand. The IAP aimed at discussing the way forward from the 6th Asia Ministerial Conference, preparation towards the 3 WCDRR and preparing the Post 2015 framework adoption and implementation. Some 90 participants from national governments, international/regional organizations, UN organizations, CSOs, media etc attended the meeting. The meeting constituted of the following five sessions; (1) Reflections of the 6thAMCDRR, (2) HFA monitoring and updates on 3 WCDRR, (3) Post DRR framework implementation, (4) Delivering the UN Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction, (5) Strengthening IAP to deliver Post 2015 DRR framework.

Active discussions were made at each session and the meeting closed with the expectations to the coming 3 WCDRR and Post 2015 DRR framework.

## **(9) Asian Conference on Urban Disaster Reduction**

The 2nd Asian Conference on Urban Disaster Reduction (ACUDR 2014) on the theme of Resilience and Sustainability was organized by the Disaster Management Society of Taiwan (DMST) at Dapinglin Building, which houses a cluster of DRR related organizations, in New Taipei City, Taiwan on 20-21 November 2014. The ACUDR is a biennial event bringing together leading scientists, decision makers, and NGOs in the field of disaster management from across Asia. It was established at the annual Symposium of the DMST in 2011 with the consensus of the Japanese Institute of Social Safety Science (ISSS) and the Journal of Korean Society of Hazard Mitigation (KOSHAM).

ADRC and Asia Air Survey Co. Ltd. gave presentations on the outcomes of "The Project

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for Strengthening the Capacity of Seismic Disaster Risk Management in Ulaanbaatar (UB) City, Mongolia” conducted by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in 2012-2013. The presentations consisted of five components: (1) General Report, (2) Ground Motion Evaluation, (3) Risk Assessment of Buildings and Lifeline Structures, (4) Development of a Simplified Fire Spread Risk Assessment Method, and (5) Disaster Education and Capacity Development.

Important suggestions and questions were raised by participants, many of whom had previous experience with earthquake disasters in Japan and Taiwan. The questions covered past disaster experiences in Mongolia, worst-case mid-winter scenarios, the seismic resistance of buildings, micro zoning, and disaster education issues.

ACUDR 2016 will be organized by KOSHAM in South Korea.

### **(10) 7th APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) Meeting**

7th meeting of APEC EPWG, which co-chairs the Executive Director of ADRC, was held on 27-28 January, 2015 at Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines and attended by about 30 disaster management officials and diplomats from APEC economies.

The main purpose of this WS is 1) Reviewing activities of the last year and 2) Discussing the work plan in 2015, and it was reported that Guidebook on Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SME) Business Continuity Planning, which ADRC composed several years ago, was translated into 7 languages, including a Japanese version.

Also the participants exchanged information on the natural disasters which occurred last year; the Government of the Philippines presented the lessons learnt from the Typhoon Haiyan in 2013 and the improvements of DRR policy based on these lessons enabled to lessen the damage by another large Typhoon Ruby in 2014. The Government of Japan introduced the outline of On-take mountain eruption and large scale landslide in Hiroshima city. The Executive Director of ADRC reported the dissemination of information on lessons from the Hanshin-Awaji Great Earthquake on its 20th anniversary.