Session Summary

Part II - Towards the Future: Commitments and Innovation

"Towards the provision of relevant guidelines and tools to assist the implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in the Asian region"

Part II "Towards the Future: Commitments and Innovation"

Country Presentation

Presentation & Discussion 1

Presentation & Discussion 2

Presentation & Discussion 3
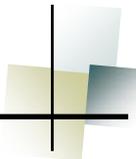
Part II "Towards the Future: Commitments and Innovation"

Theme: Theme: Towards the provision of relevant guidelines and tools to assist the implementation of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in the context of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in the Asian region.

Introduction to Part II & Presentations of proposed process design for development of Strategic National Action Plan for Countries in Asia and Pacific Regions (SNAP)
Chair: Mr. Kamal Kishore, Regional Disaster Reduction Advisor, UNDP/BCPR
Rapporteur: Mr. Amod Dixit, Executive Director, National Society for Earthquake Technology-Nepal (NSET)

◆   **Introductory Presentation**

Mr. Joseph Chung, Senior Regional Officer, UN/ISDR Asia and Pacific made an introductory presentation on ISDR's perspectives and Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) to implement the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) in Asia. He explained that it is important to promote HFA with relevant and achievable actions and in this regard, SNAP for DRR would be adoptable in Asia since it is designed for Asian countries based on available experiences. He concluded by citing crucial aspects to promote SNAP in Asia are as (1) Identification of a nodal agency for DRM, (2) Convening multi-stakeholder consultations, and (3) Development of a roadmap/national framework for DRM.

◆   **Country Presentations on the implementation of SNAP**

[Bangladesh]
Mr. Ehsanul Haque Fattah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Food & Disaster Management, Bangladesh and **Dr. Aslam Alam, Training & Awareness Raising Specialist & Deputy Team Leader, Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme, United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS), Bangladesh** presented the

current status of the implementation of SNAP in Bangladesh as follows:

►Identification of a nodal agency for DRM
  –   Ministry of Disaster Management, Relief and Food is the executing agency for a Comprehensive Disaster Management Program (CDMP)

►Convening multi-stakeholder consultations
  –   The 1971 cyclone, and the 1988 flood and other disasters forced government and people to embark upon a new concept on Disaster risk management. From that time Bangladesh started many initiatives including those recommended by HFA.
  –   Steps taken seriously, comprehensive DM formulated, implementation started April 2004
  –   Bangladesh started implementing HFA even before HFA – now aligning program with HFA
  –   MOFDA's Mission: to bring a paradigm shift to a culture of prevention, mindset change

►Development of a roadmap/national framework for DRM
  –   CDMP: 5 focus areas, several components, several implementing partners: PPPDU, DMB, BCD&FS, DOE, FAO/DAE
  –   Identification and/or mobilization of financial

resources for a national risk reduction agenda

►Systematic engagement of national – international stakeholders
– CDMP has an advocacy advisory group and emphasizes partnership & networking of all leaders in Bangladesh involved.

[Philippines]
Ms. Crispina Abat, Chief, Planning Division, Office of Civil Defense, Philippines introduced the progress of SNAP in Philippines as follows:

►Identification of a nodal agency for DRM
– National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC) is the national node for DRR

►Development of a roadmap/national framework for DRM
– Comprehensive DM plan includes mitigation, preparedness, response and rehabilitation
– Formalization of Institutional and Legislative Systems (ILS) for Disaster Risk Management: PD 1566, Sec 1: Declaration of basic principles that guides all aspects of DRR

►Challenges
– DRR needs to be integrated into formal education curricula at all levels
– Capacity building needs especial focus
– Need to consolidate the gains of NDCC and others
– The proposed DRM Act should be completed and endorsed.
– Integrate DRR in strategic planning
– Further course need to be charted for achieving Programs and financial sustainability
– Need a focus on Structural mitigation

[Vietnam]
Mr. Nguyen Sy Nuoi, Deputy Director, Department of Dike Management and Flood Control (DDFSC), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Vietnam explained as shown below:

►Identification of a nodal agency for DRM
– Central Committee for Flood and Storm Control (CCFSC)
– National Committee for Search and Rescue (NCSR)
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►Convening multi-stakeholder consultations
– SNAP of Vietnam considers Flood, flash flood, and Typhoon

►Development of a roadmap/national framework for DRM
– Red River Delta: Radical reduction has identified short, medium, and long-term priorities
– South Viet: living with flood

►Lessons
– DRR is a national /local priority
– Multi-sectoral CCFSC
– Government-Donor-NGO partnership
– 2006-10 National Plan assigns priority to DRR
– DRR is also priority in SED of MARD
– Substantial allotment of resources from the government for DRR, etc.

Mr. Kamal Kishore, Regional Disaster Reduction Advisor, UNDP/BCPR, chairperson of this session pointed out the common issues in three presentations as follows:
– The need for rapid development of Human Resources is a priority for most countries
– Most countries face the challenges of formalizing partnership among government agencies, NGOs, academia, donors,
– The experience of Vietnam in formalizing partnership among donors, NGO and government is an excellent replicable good example

- There is an urgent need to Change in mind-set
- DRR a recognized priority by all. There is the need to ensure that DRR efforts do not compete with ongoing development efforts
- Improving policy and legal environment is an urgent priority in most countries of Asia, especially the developing countries
- More robust hazard and risk reduction programs should be formulated and implemented to meet the challenges set forth by the HFA.

Presentation & Discussion 1 "Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development"

Themes: (1) Mainstreaming DRR into government policies, social and economic development

(2) Promotion of information/knowledge sharing, networking, and partnerships

Chair: Mr. Kamal Kishore, Regional Disaster Reduction Advisor, UNDP/BCPR

Rapporteur: Mr. Amod Dixit, Executive Director, NSET

Ms. Tine Ramstad, Regional Programme Officer, UN/ISDR Central Asia made a presentation titled "Mainstreaming of DRR into national development policies, plans and programs." She stressed the importance of adjustment of HFA to local condition, involvement of multi-stakeholders in national platforms, and benchmark and measurement of achievements. Mainstreaming is not easy and understanding the goal may be difficult for many actors, however, HFA allows every stakeholder to find oneself in one of the categories of action. Possible challenges in mainstreaming as she mentioned were;

- National Adjustments, and continuous efforts are required
- Roles and responsibilities should be assigned to all
- National Platforms need to be made
- National Lead is essential
- Fundamentals of National Platform should include
- Multisectoral approach
- Key ministries, private sector, NGO, Media should be involved
- HFA expresses Shared roles/responsibilities
- Allows all to influence development of policies and /legislations

- Coordinated mechanism
- Implementation
- Matrix of priorities needs to be defined.

Mr. Shingo Kochi, Researcher, ADRC introduced "ADRC Member Country Profiles" and "TDRM-Good Practices" booklets both of which were edited and compiled by ADRC, aiming to propose guidelines and tools to assist disaster risk reduction in the context of the HFA in the Asian Region. The first issue of "ADRC Member Country Profiles" booklet covers information on disaster risk reduction from the 25 ADRC member countries. Those are (1) Natural hazards likely to affect the country, and recent major disasters, (2) Disaster Management system, (3) Disaster management plan, (4) Budget size on national level, (5) Progress and Situations of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), and (6) Projects on disaster reduction headed by the Ministry in the last 2 years, as well as (7) Counterpart of ADRC

Along with the introduction of "ADRC Member Country Profiles", Mr. Kochi also recapped the importance of TDRM (Total Disaster Risk Management) concept. In order to ensure the effective application of the TDRM approach, it is essential to learn lessons from the good practices

around us both nationally as well as internationally. Given this, ADRC published "TDRM Good Practice" the first edition and the supplement version. The first issue has 28 Good Practices in 15 Asian countries, while the supplement version has 12 Good Practices in 7 Asian countries. Through further information/knowledge sharing, networking, and partnership, he expected that those ADRC ADRC publications "Country Profiles" and "TDRM: Good Practices" are tools to promote the implementation of HFA.

Dr. Hiroyuki Kameda, Visiting Researcher, Earthquake Disaster Mitigation Research Center, National Research Institute for Earthquake Science and Disaster Prevention (EDM-NIED), outlined the project "Disaster Reduction Hyperbase" which is a web-based facility disseminating disaster reduction technologies to support nations for HFA implementation. He mentioned that the successful network and process requires intergovernmental consultation (expensive), and community action (e.g. mangrooving in Vietnam, etc.) – first identified

by the EqTap project as Green belt technology.

Mr. Kazuya Kaku, Advisor to the Director, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) presented his presentation on "Sentinel-Asia Project for establishing Disaster Management Support System in Asia-Pacific Region." The project is the first step for disaster management support system to be carried out in 2006-2007 and aims to utilize earth observation satellite data (ALOS<JAXA>, MODIS<NASA>, etc.) for disaster management. It will be promoted through Internet-based, disaster-related information distribution backbone, cooperation with Digital Asia Project, capacity building activities by AIT and JAXA, and best-efforts & voluntary initiative by participating agencies/organizations.

Following the introduction of JAXA's project, **Mr. Masaru Arakida, ADRC** talked the details of the ALOX Rapid Response System and presented as example how a high-tech method can be used for DRR.

Presentation & Discussion 2 "Enhancement of Preparedness, Response & Recovery"

Themes: (1) Enhancement of early warning mechanism

                (2) Strengthening disaster preparedness for effective response

                (3) Guidelines and tools for effective post disaster recovery

Chair: Mr. Terje Skavdal, Head, UN/OCHA Bangkok

Rapporteur: Mr. Deepesh Sinha, National Emergency Response Coordinator, All India Disaster Mitigation Institute (AIDMI)

<Early Warning System>

Ms. Haleh Kootval, Chief, Public Weather Services, Applications Programme Department, WMO delivered the presentation titled "Role of World Meteorological Organization and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in Advancing the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015," in order to enhance effective disaster risk management through multi-hazard approach for

early warning of weather, water and climate. She emphasized that early warning systems must operate continuously, transparent, timely, integrated and flexible way to cover other hazards. There are key challenges in terms of legislative, organizational, financial, technical & operational, capacity building & training, and cultural aspects. WMO will support in disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts by enhancing capacities,

establishing strategic partnerships and information sharing and resource mobilization.

Then, making a presentation on "Enhancement of Preparedness and Response," **Mr. John McHarris, Adviser, Disaster Preparedness and Response, World Food Programme (WFP), Bangladesh** highlighted WFP and partner activities that contribute to the EPR within the context of the HFA, especially in Bangladesh. He said that EPR requires broad and inclusive partnerships with emphasis on coordination and the focus must be on identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning and strengthen disaster preparedness at all levels. He put emphasis on the 1) Integration of EPR with larger DRR strategy of Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme, 2) National government's leading role in the implementation of DRR and HFA to greatest extent possible, 3) Capacity building for GOB and partners at all levels, making sure that capacity building efforts from multiple organization are well coordinated and contribute to larger coherent comprehensive DRR national plans and implementation.

<Response and Recovery Process>

Mr. Kamal Kishore, Regional Disaster Reduction Advisor, UNDP/BCPR underlined the importance of
1) Focusing on most vulnerable,
2) Restoring capacities by rebuilding livelihoods,
3) Engaging other stakeholders like private sector,
4) Ensuring independent and self-efficiency,
5) Transparency and accountability in coordination, and
6) Reducing disaster risk.

Then, early recovery can be simplified in augmenting relief efforts, by supporting spontaneous recovery efforts of the affected people, lading the foundation for long-term recovery and ensuring risk reduction. He pointed out some

issues like clear definition of Early Recovery, Relief v/s Recovery during immediate days of disaster, Surging capacity at local, national and regional level, and development and practice of good information management tools, as major challenges for effective recovery.

Mr. Praveen Pardeshi, Senior Adviser, UN/ISDR's presentation focused on identification of opportunities to mainstream risk reduction through needs assessment methodology. In order to achieve this, he stressed the needs of 1) Linkage of humanitarian relief and development phase during methodology and documentation of practices for Governance sector assessments, 2) Establishment of predefined roles as per comparative advantages including risk mitigation needs and strengthening capacities, and 3) Ownership among stakeholders with data collection, assessing indicators and monitoring. He added key challenges, such as local government and community participation, Disaster Risk Reduction as part of Recovery Plans and Information sharing with large number of stakeholders.

Introducing the experience of livelihood recovery programme in Sri Lanka, **Ms. Claudia Coenjaerts, Senior Socio Economic Reintegration Specialist, International Labor Organization (ILO)** explained "Jobs for recovery," which can be the cement for better preparedness and disaster risk reduction. The programme consists of 3 phased approaches: 1) Safety nets: Preparedness for continuity of work and livelihoods after disasters, 2) Temporary job creation: Use of Cash Transfer and similar financial instruments to revive work, especially of women early on, and 3) Local Economic Recovery: Ways of investing in local labour markets –. construction, housing, etc. – for recovery. To ensure sustainable response & recovery, she emphasized the great importance to build local as well as national capacity consistently and to facilitate coordinated and sustainable approach to livelihood and employment.

Dr. Anil K. Sinha, Programme Advisor, International Recovery Platform (IRP) gave the participants a profile of IRP as an institutional mechanism to address recovery in pursuance of HFA. He underscored the need to ensure that disaster risks should not be rebuilt in the process of recovery and to ensure better and effective coordination among large number of actors/players in a post disaster situation. To achieve these,

following challenges should be confronted; 1) recognition of the various dilemmas (speed v/s safety) and striking a balance, 2) recognition of various actors crucial for post disaster recovery and building a linkage between them for overall better synergy, and 3) Ensuring consortium from emergency and relief phase to recovery phase towards DRR for sustainable development.

Presentation & Discussion 3 "For Safer Communities"

Themes: (1) Capacity development for DRR at all levels
         (2) Building of a People-based Culture of Prevention
Chair: Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, President, MERCY Malaysia
Rapporteur: Ms. Takhmina R. Turaeva, Advocacy Focal Point, UN/ISDR

Chair, **Dr. Jemilah Mahmood, President, MERCY Malaysia** greeted all the participants of the conference and introduced the topic and the aim of the discussion along with the presenters. Dr. Mahmood underlined the significance of the role of community participation and capacity development in realization of the priorities for action of Hyogo Framework for Action. She indicated that capacity development and community participation are cross cutting issues in promoting the five priorities for action of HFA (specific focus of priority three and five).

Dr. Puji Pujiono's presentation theme "Preparedness and Response for Safer Communities: From TDRM, HFA and HR" concentrated on the **OCHA**'s interest, mandate and role in TDRM approach, focusing on the importance of adopting the TDRM throughout the disaster cycle as well as its relevance for local communities. Also, Dr. Pujiono emphasized the vitality of effective coordination, stating that "International assistance could become a disaster in itself if not coordinated properly". Lastly, the presentation focused on the effective response and preparedness issues (priority area #5 of HFA),

mentioning the role and function of UNDAC missions to other countries.

Second speaker, **Dr. Shoichi Ando** presented "**UNCRD** Programs on Community Based Disaster Management" in this session. Dr. Ando highlighted major disasters occurred since 1970 worldwide and the damages they caused in numbers of deaths. He described UNCRD's major tasks and aims, which directed into enhancing the capacity of local people and governments with various partners for making communities safer, underlining the fact that some groups of population are even more vulnerable to disasters than others. Furthermore, Dr. Ando explained the concept and importance of global Earthquake Safety Initiative (GESI) project with 41 cities worldwide as well as provided information on the UNCRD's new planned programs for the year 2005-2006, part of which is "Anti-seismic Building Code Dissemination (ABCD)" project and its challenges.

Next presentation was by **Mr. Akihiro Teranishi, ADRC** on "Education for Disaster Preparedness in Primary Schools" project in Thailand and its main activities, which included development of tsunami

education materials for schoolchildren, thus, integrating disaster education in school curriculum as well as creating a teachers' guide for building teachers capacity. Mr. Teranishi acknowledged the fact that "knowing is not enough", but being able to effectively educate, i.e. methodologies and interactive methods of teaching are crucially important. He pointed out that one of the most important features of the project, the applicability of the information materials for other countries; however translation, replacement of pictures and photos would be needed.

Finally, **Dr. Amod Dixit** delivered a "**NSET** for Earthquake safer communities" presentation. It is aimed at capacity building for disaster risk reduction at all levels and building of people-based culture of prevention. Therefore, Dr. Dixit' indicated "training programs for all" as a major concept for capacity building, i.e. educating children and training teachers, technicians and self-builders (masons) as well as policy/decision makers therefore, building a culture of prevention. In addition, Dr. Dixit emphasized the challenges of the project, underlying the fact that "knowledge is not adequately available to the vulnerable" and that "larger part of the population are usually not involved in disaster risk management". He also pointed out that created awareness brings demand increase for capacity building and for specialized NGO's in DRM.

After the last speaker, Dr. Mahmood summarized all the mentioned above concerns and challenges in implementing projects towards realization of HFA priority actions #3 and #5. She pointed out the importance of education in schools stating: "Educate children and they will educate families". Then, the chair opened the floor for questions, comments and recommendations. In general terms, the following are the major points discussed:

– - Procedures to follow for inviting UNDAC mission to a country for assessment of emergency preparedness, etc.;

– Contingency Planning of UNOCHA: Safer Communities vs. Early Warning Systems;
– Anti-Seismic Safe Building Codes provision and dissemination;
– Posting Tsunami Teachers Guideline on the Internet;
– Enhancing the role of Mass and Media: engaging media more diligently in disaster risk reduction.