

ACDR 2013

Opening address by Mr. Kameoka

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- Good morning, everyone. I'm Yoshitami Kameoka, a Parliamentary Secretary for Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan.
It is my great honor to have this opportunity to make a speech as a representative of Japan at the opening & welcoming remarks for Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2013.
- Firstly, I, as a member of host country, would like to express my deepest gratitude to all of member and advisory countries for participating in the conference.

In this conference, we have three main themes.

First one is "Space Based Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction"

Second one is "Engagement of Private Sector in Disaster Risk Reduction"

And, the third one is "Global Trends on Disaster Risk Reduction and Towards a Post Hyogo Framework for Action."

We hope that this conference will make meaningful outcomes through lively discussions among member and advisory countries.

Japan received heart-warming support from all of your countries when the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred in about two years ago. On this occasion, I'd like to say thank you very much once again for the hospitality you rendered to our country".

Government of Japan has been moving forward to review laws and frameworks relating to disaster management based on the lessons learnt from and knowledge gained by the Great East Japan Earthquake. And also, we keep on preparing for probable disaster in the near future, by making continuous efforts aimed at mitigating catastrophic impact as less as possible.

Taking this opportunity, we would like to introduce our Government's trials.

- I'm a Diet member elected at Fukushima prefecture constituency. As a nuclear power plant that caused an accident when the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred is located in my home-ground, I received many heat-felt messages from all over the world. Therefore at first I would like to explain to you how the Government of Japan manages this issue.
- Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters consisting of all cabinet ministers has been making full efforts to cope with many different fields of crucial issues like recovery from disaster, removal of contamination by radioactive materials, and recuperation from economic losses. Specifically, following issues are under consideration; revision of nuclear evacuation zone, promotion of decontamination operations, drawing up a comprehensive design for 10 years later re-born cities, and plans for industry recovery and employment encouragement including revitalization of agriculture, forestry and fishery industries.
- Meanwhile, based on the lessons learnt from disaster events such as the Great East Japan Earthquake, comprehensive reviewing works for disaster management is now on-going.

On July 31, 2012, Final Report was compiled by the "Council on Disaster Countermeasures Promotion". In accordance with it, Japan has been challenging to build resilient country in both structural and non-structural way, through deliberating the way to respond to the national situation caused by natural catastrophic disasters, including comprehensive support to affected people, making special measures to the Great East Japan Earthquake to permanent one, and co-working disaster prevention program with multi stakeholders.

We, the Government of Japan would like to stress the importance of two things, based on our experiences gained and challenges being on-going.

The first one is, as we reiterate in various occasions, Japan makes sure to promote "mainstreaming of disaster prevention" which takes disaster

prevention point of view into consideration in every aspect of state policies and every stages of development projects, in order to build a resilient society.

The second one is, we reconfirm one of Japan's most important mission is to deliver the findings got and lessons learnt from the past catastrophes, including the Great East Japan Earthquake, to all over the world.

In the United Nations General Assembly held in December, 2012, it was adopted that the third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015 is to be held in Japan. Responding to this, the Government of Japan is going to provide information regarding disaster management proactively more than ever before, and to raise awareness of the importance of disaster prevention efforts toward all over the world.

In addition, the Hyogo Framework for Action as guidelines on international disaster management is terminating in 2015, therefore, Japan is diligently involving in the discussion for post Hyogo Framework for Action.

For these reasons, I hope today's discussion becomes an important step in the development of international framework for disaster management.

I would like to close my speech by saying this conference is successful and fruitful to all of your countries.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

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