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## 2. Highlights of 2012/2013

### 2-1. Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction 2013

#### (1) Unprecedented level and nature of disaster impact

Information sharing among member countries, advisor countries, and other relevant organizations are indispensable for strengthening the networks of people working on disaster risk reduction in Asia.

The Asian Disaster Reduction Center (ADRC) convenes an annual international conference attended by disaster risk management officials from member countries and disaster



experts from international organizations to promote information sharing, facilitate the exchange of opinions, and enhance partnerships among participants.

The Asian Conference on Disaster Reduction (ACDR) 2013 was held in Kobe, Japan on 23 January 2013. The conference was jointly organized by the government of Japan, the United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), and ADRC, and was attended by a total of 83 participants, including high ranking government officials from 25 countries as well as representatives of 15 international and regional organizations, the academic community, and the private sector. At the opening ceremony, remarks were given by Mr. Yoshitami Kameoka, Parliamentary Secretary of Disaster Management, Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, ADRC Chairman Dr. Shigeru Itoh, and Mr. Andrew Maskrey, Global Assessment Report (GAR) Coordinator, UNISDR.

ACDR2013 consisted of three sessions on the following key topics:

1. Space Based Technologies for DRR
2. Engagement of Private Sector in DRR
3. Global Trends on DRR and Towards a Post-HFA

In the first session, the Japanese space agency (JAXA), research institutions (Asian Institute of Technology and the University of Tsukuba), delegates from the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan, and ADRC presented information on good practices within Asia regarding the utilization of space technologies. This was followed by a wide-ranging discussion of future activities and plans. In the second session, representatives of a private company, academia (Kyoto University) and regional organizations (APEC, ADPC and ADRC) gave briefings on their research findings and discussed the critical role of the private sector and recent good practices. In the final session, UNISDR reviewed the outcomes of the Fifth Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the Global

Assessment Report 2011, confirming key points of discussion with regard to moving toward a post-HFA framework.

ACDR 2013 was a great success thanks to the substantial contributions of all of the speakers and the active involvement of all participants.

\*For more information, please visit the ACDR 2013 website at  
[http://www.adrc.asia/acdr/2013\\_index.html](http://www.adrc.asia/acdr/2013_index.html).