

Special Event
June 19, Geneva

2nd Global Platform for
Disaster Risk Reduction

International Flood Initiative

Charting Global Agenda for Water-related Disaster Risk Reduction

A Follow-up of the HLEP/UNSGAB "Water and Disaster" Action Plan

13:00 - 13:10

Opening Address

H.E. Mr. Shinichi Kitajima, Ambassador of Japan in Geneva

Welcome address

Mr. Salvano Briceno, UN/ISDR

13:10 - 13:20

An introduction of "Water and Disaster" Action Plan

Mr. Kuniyoshi Takeuchi, ICHARM

13:20 - 14:10

Commitments & Actions

Mr. Avinash Tyagi, WMO

Mr. Nokeo Ratanavong, UN/ESCAP

Mr. Fabrice Renaud, UNU

Mr. Salvano Briceno, UN/ISDR

Mr. Kuniyoshi Takeuchi, ICHARM

14:10 - 14:30

The way forward (panel discussion)

Panellists: (WMO, UNU, UN/ESCAP, UN/ISDR and ICHARM)

Moderator: Mr. Salvano Briceno

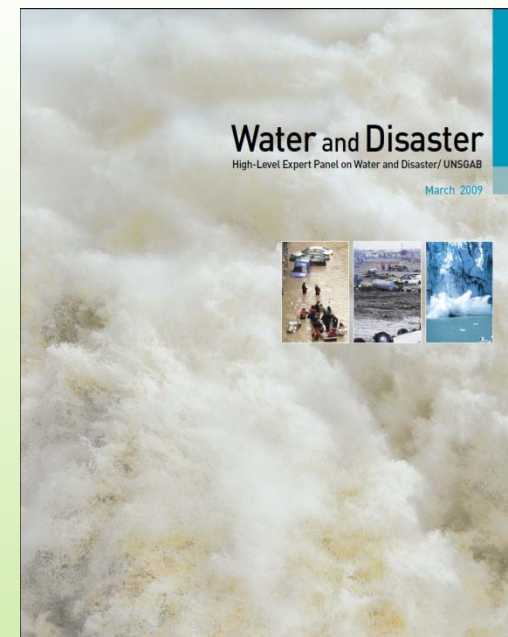
14:30 - 14:45

WWDR III, Side publication report

Mr. Yuichi Ono, ISDR

14:45

Closing Special Event



Water and Disaster

High-Level Expert Panel on Water and Disaster/ UNSGAB

March 2009



Prevention and Action to Minimize Death and Destruction

Building Resilience toward Sustainable Development

The High-Level Expert Panel on Water and Disaster/ UNSGAB (HLEP)

The High-Level Expert Panel on Water and Disaster/ UNSGAB (HLEP) was convened at the request of the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) in 2007, under the Presidency of H.E. Dr. Han Seung-soo, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea.

The Expert Panel members subsequently found themselves united in their sincere wish to build a safer world and, as a result of serious and devoted effort, created an Action Plan for preventing, preparing for, and managing water-related disasters.

That Water and Disaster Action Plan was presented in March of 2009 at the 5th World Water Forum in Istanbul.



H.R.H the Prince of Orange
Chairperson

United Nations Secretary-
General's Advisory Board on
Water and Sanitation



H.E. Mr. Han Seung-soo
Founding Chair

High-Level Expert Panel on
Water and Disaster/ UNSGAB
Prime Minister
Republic of Korea



Salvano Briceno
UN/ISDR



Loïc Fauchon
WWC



Hideaki Oda
JWF



Babagana Ahmadu
FAO



Pascal Berteaud
France (DG)



Max Campos Ortiz
CAIS



Margaret Catley-Carlson
GWP



Rae-kwon Chung
Korea (Amb.)



Mochamad Basoeki
Hadimoeljono
Indonesia (IG)



Ramaswamy. R. Iyer
India (CPR)



Michel Jarraud
WMO



Heng Liu
China (NHRI)



Koïchiro Matsuura

UNESCO



Abel Mejia

WB



Paul Sherlock

UNICEF



Quamrul Islam Siddique

BWP



Kuniyoshi Takeuchi

ICHARM



Robert L Van Antwerp

USACE



Koos Wieriks

Netherland



Alan Werritty

Dundee



In-Hee Won

Korea (MLT)



Eric Rasmussen

US(InSTEDD)



Robert Mardini

ICRC



Hiroaki Taniguchi

Japan (MLIT)

Action Plan: 6 Urgent Imperatives

- 1) Galvanize and mobilize before disaster strikes
- 2) Prioritize systems to forecast, inform, alert and evacuate
- 3) Incorporate disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation as integral to development planning
- 4) Improve disaster response
- 5) Provide safe water and toilets quickly when disaster/conflict strikes

6) Special crosscutting Initiatives

- a. National governments to declare **hydro-climatic data as public goods** and seek UNGA endorsement (34).
- b. The delta states to establish a **Large Delta States Network** to tackle sea level rise (36).
- c. National and international hydrological institutes to identify underlying analytical and data requirements to meet climate changes and to support **structural and non-structural measures** for disaster risk reduction (29).

1) Galvanize and mobilize before disaster strikes

01 Local and National Level Actions

Our Actions

- National governments to mainstream and integrate disaster potential assessment and risk reduction within their development plans to promote economic growth.

- Ask UN Secretary-General to invite member states to undertake the proposed action.

28 Global Level Actions

Our Actions

- OECD/DAC to no longer consider disaster risk reduction solely a humanitarian task. This would enable donors to increase their investment in preventative measures for disaster risk reduction.

- Request OECD/DAC to realize the proposed action.

32 Global Level Actions

Our Actions

- Local government associations to urge members to integrate disaster potential assessment and risk reduction into their economic development planning and policy.

- Contact local government associations such as UCLG, ICLEI and CITYNET inviting them to urge their members to undertake the proposed action.

2) Prioritize systems to forecast, inform, alert and evacuate

- Early warning systems must reach people. To achieve this National Governments and River Basin Organizations must create comprehensive flood risk assessments.
- Warning systems- established with the best-available technology - should be linked to operational on-ground response groups and cell phone networks (2, 11, 35).
- Systems must be buttressed by international organizations, Local Government associations, technology providers, Regional Banks and international organizations (33).
- Data sets and manuals of best practices for early warning systems are needed (19).

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| 02 | National governments to promptly develop people centered warning systems, comprehensive flood risk maps and assessments linked to communication systems such as cell phone networks. These systems to include observation and warnings for flash floods. | Request WMO and UNESCO (via the International Flood Initiative) to assist governments in undertaking the proposed actions and invite international financial institutions to support the fulfillment of the proposed actions. |
| 07 | Regional Climate Centers are needed and should provide outputs to national hydro climatic agencies which link users with early warnings, climate predictions, risk assessments and climate change scenarios. | Invite WMO to take the lead in strengthening and, where necessary, establishing Regional Climate Centers. |
| 12 | Regional organizations to call for the establishment of networks of ministers for water disasters. | Approach regional organizations such as ESCAP , ECLAC to call for the establishment of the proposed networks. |
| 18 | IPCC and World Climate Conference to produce specific recommendations on the topic of water and disasters in their 2009 events and the follow-up processes. | Request IPCC and WMO respectively to include water and disasters as a key topic in the preparatory processes for the IPCC Special Report on the Management of Extreme Events and the programme and recommendations of the World Climate Conference. |
| 19 | WMO/GWP/UNESCO to create a database on best practice in responding to early warnings, and to approach NGOs and local authorities active in community-based flood risk management to register their experience. | Ask WMO/GWP/UNESCO to create the proposed database. |
| 30 | The International Flood Initiative and international hydrological and hydraulic institutes to examine the efficiency and effectiveness of disaster prevention measures and develop disaster preparedness indices for implementation by local authorities. | Request International Flood Initiative and international hydrological and hydraulic research institutes to conduct the proposed studies. |
| 35 | National governments to report to UN/ ISDR on the current status of early warning systems in their country/region including a map of areas covered by these systems. | Approach UN/ ISDR to realize the proposed action. |

02 Local and National Level Actions

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Our Actions

- Request WMO and UNESCO (via the International Flood Initiative) to assist governments in undertaking the proposed actions and invite international financial institutions to support the fulfillment of the proposed actions.

30 Global Level Actions

Our Actions

- The International Flood Initiative and international hydrological and hydraulic institutes to examine the efficiency and effectiveness of disaster prevention measures and develop disaster preparedness indices for implementation by local authorities.
- Request International Flood Initiative and international hydrological and hydraulic research institutes to conduct the proposed studies.