

ITU Asia-Pacific Regional Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Emergency Telecommunications

8-11 July 2011
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

FINAL DRAFT

KEY SUMMARY:

- ❖ Telecommunications and ICTs play a vital role in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Disaster Management (DM) as well as Climate Change Adaptation
- ❖ Key challenges in DRR/DM and Climate Change Adaptation include:
 - Effective and streamlined coordination mechanism at all levels (nationally and internationally)
 - Effective disaster communications including integrated functional early warning systems
 - Affordable technology options with complementary redundancy that are integrated into daily lives or business practices
 - Existence or reform of legal, policy and regulatory frameworks, including practical emergency communication plan as part of the disaster/emergency management plan, as well as standard operating procedures
 - Capacity building in technical, human, and policy aspects of disaster management and emergency communications
 - Comprehensive (disaster/emergency related) awareness programmes
 - Incorporating communities, Persons with Disabilities and/or with special needs as well as the Elderly in the entire disaster management life-cycle
 - Applications of DM and DRR related standards for public, researchers and practitioners
- ❖ Satellite and wireless terrestrial communications are essential for disaster response and relief for rapid deployment and versatility.
- ❖ Various ICT platforms, standards, and applications to support activities on DRR/DM and Climate Change Adaptation exist. They need to be justified and adopted suitably for country context.
- ❖ Emergency telecommunications is a critical part of Disaster Management Plan and emergency telecommunications plan that needs to be put in place.
- ❖ Emergency telecommunications linked with monitoring and early warning of disaster events are critical for having an effective overall disaster communications in place and to enhance the response capacity.
- ❖ International coordination and cooperation play a key facilitating role in ensuring success of DRR/DM.

- ❖ 'Tampere Convention' is an important international treaty aimed at facilitating international coordination and cooperation. Member States are encouraged to ratify and implement it.
- ❖ Public-Private-People Partnership should be pursued and adopted for sustainable DM and DRR developments, and with ITU/ESCAP and other stakeholders/partners.
- ❖ Knowledge sharing and multi-stakeholder/country discussion platform like this Forum should be continued.
- ❖ International organizations play an advocacy role and must work closely together to ensure that there is no duplication of efforts.

Moving Forward:

1. Development of a comprehensive Assessment Framework on National Emergency Telecommunication Plans, in the overall context of disaster risk management in general and disaster communications in particular, including:
 - a. Country practices (benchmarks and case studies)
 - b. Toolkits and guidelines for assessment
2. Capacity Building on National Emergency Telecommunication Strategy – an Implementation Framework, including:
 - a. Need and readiness assessment
 - b. Toolkits and guidelines for implementation
 - c. Training and knowledge sharing platform
3. Development of a National Emergency Telecommunications Plan at a country level, including:
 - a. Country workshop
 - b. Formation of a national emergency telecommunication team
 - c. Drafting the national emergency telecommunication plan and setting the Standard Operating Procedures
 - d. Emergency drill, if possible
4. Effective regional cooperation at all phases of DRR/DM
 - a. Expanding partnerships on regional cooperation mechanisms such as the ITU Framework on Cooperation Mechanism (IFCE), Asia-Pacific Inter-agency Working Group for building regional capacity for emergency communications using Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model, ESCAP's Regional Cooperative Mechanism for Disaster Monitoring and Early Warning particularly Drought, Regional Integrated Multi-hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), and etc.
 - b. Inventory of resources at both national and international levels
 - c. Database of focal points of countries and organizations
 - d. Platforms for discussions and knowledge sharing
 - e. Commitments and/or obligations through international treaties / cooperative frameworks such as the Tampere Convention