Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)

- Sendai framework agreement for DRR is the general reference for all DRR actions across the world and now will have to go under its MTR Mid Term Review, where improvements and new approaches could be introduced;
- There is a general trend to try to unify (or at least) to harmonize policies and strategies for the actions aiming to tackle climate change impact and DRR. Most of the disasters in the world, in fact, are linked or directly provoked by Climate Change. So the action plans for DRR and to tackle Climate Change are more and more integrated or at least coordinated;
- One aspect where there is an urgent need to coordinate and to harmonize is in the field of data collection and data re-use. Learning through what has happened it’s crucial to improve resilience and resistance. Unfortunately, at the moment very often data are collected in different ways from different sources and cannot be used properly for all purposes. In this sense one of the priority of the coordination between DRR strategies and Climate Change actions would be exactly to harmonize data collection across the various fields, in order to work on common and shared sets of data for both purposes: DRR and Climate Change;
- The work done by ITU-T (ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector) is also conducting work on DRR, which will prove to be crucial in order to facilitate harmonization of available data for different types of disasters. Without reliable and agreed shared data, for instance, it is impossible to imagine A.I. applications to deal with natural hazards and disasters.
- ITU/WMO/UNEP Focus Group on AI for Natural Disaster Management (FG-AI4NDM) was established to explore the role of AI and other frontier technologies in assisting with data collection and handling, improving modelling across spatiotemporal scales, and providing effective communication in the advent of a disaster.
- In this sense the Early warnings for All initiative (co-led by WMO and UNDRR, and to which ITU is a lead implementing partner1) to extend the coverage of multi-hazard, inclusive early warning systems to all countries of the world, it is a fundamental step and UNDRR, WBU and ITU fully support it;

1 ITU leads the Pillar on “Warning Dissemination and Communication”. 
Last but not least, UNDRR announced that its campaign “Media saving lives” has inaugurated on March 1st its third phase, with another 25 countries across 4 regions (Asia Pacific, Africa and Arab region) where journalists and media professionals will be trained to correctly cover situation of Disasters and will also be trained to provide accurate and reliable information received from official sources, directly to the citizens in need, wherever they are and through all possible means and tools. An accurate and finalized approach to the use of the spectrum to reach all and every citizen of the world, will become one of the priority in the months to come.

Towards WSIS+20 and WSIS beyond 2025, please share your views on the emerging trends, challenges, achievements, and opportunities in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines to date (5-8 bullets)

- The panel welcomed the wise and timely decision of WSIS organizers to introduce and strength a new action line specifically dedicated to CC and DRR, because both these issues are becoming a more and more relevant issue for all citizens of the world.
- Cooperation among the various action lines of WSIS and its various actors would be more then welcomed, because only through a transversal approach will be possible to arrive to effective solutions to the problems treated in the sessions.

Tangible outcomes (such as key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments (3-5 bullet points)

- UNDRR announced the launch of the phase 3 of the “Media saving lives” activity (that will last till the summer 2023) and the imminent revision of the Sendai Framework Action Plan through the next MTR (Mid Term Review) expected to take place in May in UN NY.
- Three deliverables have been finalized by FG-AI4NDM which are anticipated to form the basis for international standards within the domain of natural disaster management, in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to foster resilience among communities.

Actionable plan (2-5 points)

- Priority one: establish common criteria and requirements for data collection in the field of DRR and CC
- Establish clear and common rules for the usage of these data for public interest;
- Promote the adoption of EWS early warning systems across the globe, with a special attention to the fact that these systems need to include in their mode of functioning the direct reach of the population at risk everywhere in the world, through all technical means, including traditional media (TV and radio) that still remain the most followed media, able to reach all kind of populations.

Suggestions for thematic aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2024 (WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event) (one paragraph)
• A special attention needs to be paid to the interactions between WSIS action lines. The fight against climate change and disasters cannot be a single action line, but -by definition- needs to be transversal. Unidimensional actions will not work to tackle issues that are so complex and transversal.

• A.I. applications to these fields, based on common shared and carefully selected data, could be a very promising tool and the WSIS could be the best environment where this interaction could be discussed in detail.