

## **2017 Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction**

Plenary Session on National and Local Disaster Risk Reduction Strategies Pave the Way for Action by All

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### **Official Statement of the Government of Georgia**

**Mr. Kakha Okrojanashvili-Deputy Secretary of the State Security and Crisis Management Council of Georgia**

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**Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,  
Ladies and gentlemen,**

On behalf of the Government of Georgia, I would like to express sincere gratitude to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) for excellent organization of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and to the Government of the United Mexican States for hospitality.

As a signatory country of many international treaties, in 2005 -2015, Georgia was committed at “Building the Resilience of Georgian Communities to Disasters” within the Hyogo Framework for Action. Since 2015, the Government of Georgia has a holistic approach to build a culture of prevention and achieve Global Targets of the Sendai Framework for Action 2015-2030. In this regards, it is noteworthy that establishment of disaster resilient and sustainable country is one of the main priorities of the Georgian Government.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Due to the specific geographic location and complicated landscape, Georgia is rather vulnerable to various large-scale natural and man-made disasters substantially effecting the economic growth and sustainable development with damage to population, infrastructure and environment. Furthermore, during the recent decades, a significant increase in the frequency and intensity of hydrological, meteorological and geological hazards has been recorded in Georgia. In 2015 the damages caused only by the extreme geological and hydro meteorological events reached around 150 million Euros.

Today, it is an honor to share the success of institutionalization of Georgian disaster risk reduction policy planning process and announce that in the beginning of 2017, the Government of Georgia has adopted “Georgia’s National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy 2017-2020” and its Action Plan, aiming at establishment of unified disaster risk reduction system on national and local levels and ensuring the strengthening of preparedness and response capabilities of the country.

It is my privilege today to underline that the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy is in line with the four Priorities for Action of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and aims at achieving the 7 Global Targets, as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals. It is also, highly important to underline that the National Strategy fulfils the obligations undertaken within the “EU-Georgia Association Agreement” in regards to natural disasters.

**Distinguished Delegates,**

The Georgian Government commitments on the disaster data loss collection methodology, early warning and alarm systems, international cooperation, the role of media, Geospatial data infrastructure, gender sensitive issues, people with disabilities, cooperation with the academic community, private and business sector are underlined within the National Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy that is believed to pave the way for risk reduction, building the disaster resilience community and achieving the ambitious targets of Sendai Framework in Georgia.

In this regards, it is my humble honor to extend the sincere appreciation to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) for the already achieved results in building the culture of prevention and encourage the governments and organizations around the world in enhancing the cooperation with private and business sectors, as well as with the academic communities in regards to disaster risk reduction that will ensure the efficient and fair distribution of costs between the public and private sectors; willingness in promoting the good practices of the gender sensitive issues, and disability inclusive disaster risk reduction (DiDRR) in prevention, preparedness, response and “built back better” activities.

Kindly, let me conclude by expressing the confidence that the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction will foster the closer relationships and cooperation amongst the nations with a renewed commitment to disaster risk reduction and our joint efforts would be a significant step forward in building a disaster resilient and sustainable future for all.

**Thank you!**