

**Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction
22-26 May 2017, Cancun, Mexico
-From Commitment to Action-**

**PHILIPPINE STATEMENT
(long version)**

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Chairperson, Honorable Leaders, Ministers, Ladies and Gentlemen.

On behalf of the Philippine Government and President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, I convey to the people and government of Mexico and to the UNISDR our gratitude and congratulations for organizing and hosting this Global Platform.

Two years after the adoption of the Sendai Framework, we come here – both the PH Government and our partners – the civil society organizations, the academe, and the private sector in the Philippines – united as one – to reiterate our collective commitment to the implementation of the Sendai Framework.

As a country that regularly experiences natural and human-induced disasters and is exposed to the evolving risks due to the changing climate, we continue to adopt measures to lessen our vulnerabilities and mitigate the effects of disasters, strengthen our institutions and capacities for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA), and build the resilience of our people. It is clear to us that our people's lives are the most important resource we have and whose survival also depends on the sustainability of our fragile ecosystems.

So today, we are pleased to share our progress on our DRR initiatives:

1. Effective legislation is the cornerstone of Philippine DRRM efforts. In this regard, we strive to ensure the alignment of our legal framework and other DRR efforts with the Sendai Framework and other key post-2015 development processes. Concretely, this is best reflected in the amendatory bill on the PH Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010. Still putting at its core a “whole-of-society” approach at all levels in achieving “safer, adaptive, and resilient Filipino communities”.
2. In our Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022, we acknowledge that ensuring safety and building resilience are foundations towards the attainment of inclusive growth. With this, we have incorporated various policies and strategies in the sectoral chapters of the Plan to, among others, increase resiliency of the country and strengthen its disaster preparedness. In fact, in the last seven years the government has enhanced budget for risk resilience projects and programs from USD295 million in 2013 to USD2 billion in 2016. This includes providing direct assistance to most vulnerable municipalities through disaster risk financing and insurance schemes.
3. We believe that the success of any DRR effort lies in the vibrant relationship and engagement between the Government and various stakeholders towards building community resilience. We work in collaboration with the academe, civil society organizations, the private sector, media, UN agencies and other stakeholders at the

grassroots level. Such positive collaboration is epitomized in linkages such as in public-private partnerships, which give vulnerable communities access to resources and funding from the government and the private sector, to support risk reduction efforts.

4. We recognize the importance and encourage the application of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) in our DRR and CCA efforts at the national and local levels. We recognize the importance of strengthening capacities at the local level to prevent and mitigate disaster risk and adapt to climate change.
5. We work together to create the "Scientific Community-based DRR and CCA Plan" that focuses on hazard and risk mapping as vital components of our country's national and local DRR planning. Moreover, we share to the global community our STI-based solutions as we build, in cooperation with the international community, a global hub of STI on DRR.
6. We fully support the Bangkok Principles of the Sendai Framework for health to be at the center of DRR and that the health determinants of disaster be addressed to ensure comprehensive development and sustainability. As such, we have institutionalized and mainstreamed DRRM in health policies, plans and systems at all levels of health care.
7. Equally important is the value education brings in DRR and therefore we conduct intensive information and education campaigns. We mainstream DRR in various sectors and ensure DRR inclusion in our school curriculum.
8. In the implementation of the Sendai Framework, we also endeavor to integrate issues on internal displacement and human mobility in national and regional DRR strategies.
9. We are pleased to announce that the ASEAN conducted a global launch of the One ASEAN, One Response Declaration at the Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR (AMCDRR) held in New Delhi in November 2016. The ASEAN intends to further strengthen DRR implementation through an effective strategic implementation of DRR initiatives within the context of the AADMER, which continue to serve as our policy backbone for DRR, and the Sendai Framework.
10. The Philippines has been recognized for its leadership in DRR in recent years, and even considered a model for multi-stakeholder cooperation. However, while much work has been accomplished, we recognize that there is still much to be done. Hence, we commit to work towards addressing our own challenges and working with other countries to help build a resilient world. In this regard, we join our fellow governments in calling the international community to further strengthen international cooperation and global partnership to achieve a culture of resilience in all aspects.

Our presence here in this Global Platform demonstrates that the PH is committed to working with the international community in ensuring that the PH fully supports the implementation of the Sendai Framework alongside other 2030 global agendas. We believe that an integrated approach is key to ensure sustained progress on these commitments and keep our communities safe. Together we will be able to positively and substantially contribute towards resilient communities and sustainable development. Thank you.

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