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## MEDIA ADVISORY

Bai Yansong (top CCTV anchor) to moderate discussion, "Is your city ready?" at Shanghai Expo's "Better City, Better Life", with Assistant Mayor & Secretary-General of Chengdu and UN experts, on the International Day for Disaster Reduction

## 13 October 2010

Cities can be the most dangerous places on earth as seen recently in China, Haiti and Pakistan, where earthquake and floods threatened millions of people. Is your city ready? Join our two-hour debate moderated by CCTV anchorman Bai Yansong and listen to the Assistant Mayor and Secretary-General of Chengdu (site of the 2008 Sichuan earthquake) and international experts to learn more about what can be done to make cities more resilient against disasters.

The debate is open to all visitors to the UN Pavilion.

WHO: Bai Yansong, Compere, CCTV News Commentary Department;

Mao Zhixiong, Ass't Mayor and Secretary-General, Chengdu Municipal People's Gov't; Yin Yin Nwe, UNICEF-China Representative and Chair of UN Disaster Mgt Team; Henrik Slotte, Chief, Post-conflict and Disaster Management Branch, UNEP;

Li Zhong Chun, Editor-in-Chief, China Business Times;

Helena Molin Valdes, Deputy Director, UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

WHAT: Two-hour debate moderated by CCTV anchorman Bai Yansong

WHERE: The Forum, UN Pavilion

WHEN: 13 October, 11.30 a.m. – 13.30 p.m.

A musical presentation by the Shanghai American School will follow, singing "Bring Happiness to the World," written in the aftermath of the Kobe earthquake.

## ABOUT UNISDR:

The secretariat of International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) is the focal point for the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action -- a ten year plan of action adopted in 2005 by 168 governments to protect lives and livelihoods against disasters. It is the body entrusted by the Member States of the United Nations to ensure synergy among the Organization's disaster reduction activities. We coordinate, campaign and encourage international efforts in disaster risk reduction by organizing the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, generating knowledge through the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction, and supporting political process and intergovernmental discussions and decisions.