



**Global Platform
for Disaster Risk Reduction**
Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland
8 - 13 May 2011



4 March 2011

65-DAYS-TO-GO: REGISTER TODAY

**Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World
Reconstruction Conference
8-13 May 2011 Geneva, Switzerland**

On 28 February in Bolivia, 500 houses were washed away by devastating mudslides, killing 50 people while repeating similar patterns from the country's past. Recent disasters in New Zealand, Brazil and Australia have also been costly. The human and economic price paid by communities worldwide because of disasters has soared, whether in rich or poor countries. The message is clear: Disaster risk reduction is no longer an option, it is a must.

No country is immune from disasters. All governments and other stakeholders should be represented in the Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction. This is a unique opportunity for all, affected and in charge, to voice their concerns, devise solutions and seek political commitment to do more to protect their citizens against disasters.

For your information, please see attached the Discussion Paper for the Third Session of the Global Platform and the World Reconstruction Conference which provides background information while stimulating debate and helping to shape outcomes.

We kindly ask all participants to register as soon as possible, to ensure timely issuance of visas and other practical preparations. For further information please see www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform.

Neil McFarlane
Coordinator for the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Attachment: Discussion Paper for the Third Session of the Global Platform