



Deutsches Komitee Katastrophenvorsorge e.V. (DKKV)
German Committee for Disaster Reduction
within the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR)

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

the German Committee for Disaster Reduction (DKKV) is the National Platform for disaster reduction within the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR) in Germany and currently chairing a network of the Czech Republic, the French, the German and the Swiss National Platforms.

In view of the increasing relevance of regional political structures – namely the European Commission and, the EurOpa Major Hazards Agreement of the Council of Europe and the initiatives of UNISDR Europe – with regard to disaster reduction, the need for coordinated activities is more obvious than ever. The initiatives of the last years, like the Marrakesh Work Programme of EurOpa, but also the Greenpaper on adaptation to Climate Change of the European Commission and the study commissioned by EC/Directorate General of Environment on “Member states’ approaches towards prevention policy”, are only a few examples.

The dialogue started in previous National Platforms and HFA Focal Points meetings like in Bonn, Paris and Strasbourg on synergies, cooperation and coordinated activities of National Platforms and HFA Focal Points at regional level. They need to be further discussed in order to ensure that National Platforms and HFA Focal Points are involved in regional decision making processes.

At the same time we see a number of upcoming international events which could lead to important strategic decisions in the field of disaster risk reduction in the next years.

- In June 2009 the ISDR partners will meet at the Second Global Platform in Geneva.
- In December 2009 COP 15 in Copenhagen will hopefully lead to a Post Kyoto Agreement.
- In 2010 the Midterm Review of the Hyogo Framework for Action will take place.

In order to continue this dialogue DKKV, in close cooperation with its network partners would like to convene a meeting of

European National Platforms and HFA Focal Points of the ISDR.
February 19 – 20, 2009 in Bonn

The aims of the meetings will be to:

- identify practical arrangements for future cooperation/networking of National Platforms and HFA Focal points on European level.
- exchange information and discuss possible inputs to the upcoming international events.

We would like to ask you to confirm your participation to DKKV: info@dkkv.org ,
phone: +49-228-44601827, fax: +49-228-44601836 until January 20, 2009.

Funding for a limited number of participants will be provided by UNISDR and EurOpa.
Please contact DKKV for additional information on support for participation.

Yours Sincerely

Bonn 18.12.2008

Karl-Otto Zentel
Chief Executive Officer
German Committee for Disaster Reduction