



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération Internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر



**On the occasion of the
Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
Geneva, June 2009**



You are invited to a special event on

**Legal preparedness for international disaster cooperation
in the context of climate change**

Co Chairs: United Nations Office for the Coordination of
Humanitarian Affairs & International Federation of Red Cross and
Red Crescent Societies

Date: **Friday, 19 June**

Time: **8:00 – 9:30 a.m.**

Place: **CICC Room 16**

(Coffee and pastries: 8:00-8:15)

Climate change is resulting in more major disasters which are also striking more intensely and in regions not traditionally used to them. More than ever, governments need to be prepared both to effectively use and manage the help that outside actors can provide when they are faced with overwhelming disasters. In the past, however, few have devised comprehensive systems to do this before they were struck by a disaster. This has led to bureaucratic bottlenecks as well as to problems of quality, coordination and complementarity.

In 2007, the state parties to the Geneva Conventions unanimously adopted the “Guidelines for the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance” at the 30th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent. States also have other important new tools at their disposal, such as the Guidance and Indicator Package for Implementing Hyogo Priority 5, prepared by OCHA and ISDR in 2008.

This event will look at several examples of positive experiences of government and civil society cooperation in finding solutions to these issues before a disaster strikes. It will also open a broader dialogue on how best to integrate the issue of legal preparedness into plans for climate change adaptation and efforts to carry out the Hyogo Framework.

Co-chairs: Niels Scott, Chief, Disaster and Vulnerability Policy Section, OCHA
David Fisher, Coordinator, International Disaster Response Laws, Rules and Principles Programme, IFRC

Speakers:

- Mr. Ross Sovann, Deputy Secretary-General, Cambodian National Committee for Disaster Management
- Mr. Emmanuel Hindovei Tommy, Secretary-General, Sierra Leone Red Cross Society
- Mr. Dag Olav Høgvold, Senior Advisor, Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection and Emergency Planning

RSVP: Please confirm your attendance to Gisela Hernandez, IFRC (gisela.hernandez@ifrc.org, + 41 (0) 22 730 4811) **by 16 June.**