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Parliamentary Roundtable on Making Disaster Risk Reduction a Tool for Climate Change Adaptation

11h00 – 13h00, 18th June 2009

Building resilience to disasters and climate change becomes an increasing concern among the member states of the United Nations. Governments not only adopted the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, but also designated official focal points to monitoring and follow up the HFA implementation. Moreover, Governments also requested UNISDR secretariat to coordinate and monitoring the HFA implementation in the period of 2005 -2015.

Some progress has been made in the last five years. Disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation are the issue cross-cutting development sectors. Disaster risk reduction is more accepted by different stakeholders as essential element to achieve Millennium Development Goals. The world has witnessed growing engagements and actions of different stakeholders in order to reduce the severe impact of disasters and climate change on human and society.

Parliamentarians among other stakeholders have also played an important role in pushing the disaster risk reduction and climate change agenda forward at different levels under different intuitional frameworks, including the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Globe International, Globe Europe, E-parliament, African Parliamentarian Network, The Parliamentary Network of the Work Bank, Asian Forum of Parliamentarian for Population and Development. UNISDR has also initiated its high-level advocacy programme to engage parliamentarians under the theme - *Making Disaster Risk Reduction a Tool for Climate Change Adaptation*.

In this context, UNISDR will organize a closed roundtable session with some parliamentarians at the second session of Global Platform for disaster risk reduction. The main objective is to facilitate information sharing and identify challenges and opportunities in further engaging parliamentarians in making disaster risk reduction a tool for climate change adaptation.

Provisional Agenda

<u>Chair:</u>	Honorable Nora Schimming-Chase from Namibia
11:00 – 11:10	Welcome remark by Margareta Wahlström, Assistant Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNISDR
11:50 – 12:10	Reports on the progress of UNISDR initiative with parliamentarians in Asia and Africa by Senator Loren Legarda from the Philippines and Honorable Rachel Shebesh from Kenya
12:10 – 12:20	Presentation on parliamentarians engagements in Europe, by Globe Europe
12:20 – 12:50	Roundtable discussion on opportunities and challenges in further engaging in parliamentarians in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation
12:50 – 13:00	The Way forward