Statement by Mr. Pradip Kumar Koirala, Head of the Delegation of Nepal, at the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Plenary Meeting, Geneva, 14 July 2014

Mr. Chairman/Madam Chair, Distinguished delegates.

At the outset, I would like to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on your assumption of the chair of this session of the Preparatory Committee. I assure you of the full cooperation of my delegation in the discharge of your task.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation believes that the process for the development of a post-2015 framework for DRR is critically important to ensure its priority at all levels. We consider that enhancing local resilience; integrating sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction; and strengthening risk governance and accountability are the key areas for a post-2015 framework for us while placing the gender as a cross-cutting issue. The integration of disaster risk reduction into development process remains as important as ever. In this context, ensuring enhanced level of international cooperation in strengthening the capacities of the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, to manage disaster risks is imperative.

In order to sustain disaster risk reduction efforts and promote resilience, it is critical to embed DRR and climate change adaptation and mitigation into development initiatives. My delegation holds view that the post-2015 framework must also make risk governance and accountability a clear priority for action by making DRR inclusive and prioritizing the response part so as to ensure that the governments and partners are able to promote coordination in DRR efforts.

Mr. Chairman,

A wide range of tools and approaches including financial incentives are essential for the proper management of DRR. Developing a public-private partnership may be useful in this regard. However, in order to support the use of financial incentives for risk reduction, it is necessary to have evidence that demonstrates their effectiveness. At the same time, the post-2015 framework should also address and provide guidance on non-financial incentives.

Considering the importance of the integration of CCA and DRR, the post-2015 framework must provide guidance on coordinated planning, a simplified process and effective utilization of resources to promote resilience. Similarly, the framework should not only consider the effect of disaster on migration, but also look at the role of remittances and migration in promoting risk reduction.

Mr. Chairman,

We believe that countries like Nepal, which are highly vulnerable to natural disasters, deserve special attention from the international community in their efforts to build resilient communities and inclusive DRR.

It is critical for the post-2015 framework to have an effective monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Likewise, it is important to ensure that the framework provides guidance to review implementation, collect best practices and share information among States. Developing regional monitoring and evaluation mechanisms would be of equal importance.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, while reaffirming Nepal's deep commitment to the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction, I would like to reiterate our willingness to actively pursue this goal collectively during this session of the Preparatory Committee and beyond.

Thank you.

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