Karachi Declaration on Tsunami Resilience Initiatives

Declaration Adopted by the participants of the International Conference on Tsunami Resilience on 28 November, 2015

International Conference on Tsunami Resilience on the 70 years commemoration of the 1945 Makran Tsunami was held on 28 November, 2015 in Karachi hosted by UNESCO, Islamabad and Jakarta, OXFAM GB, NED University of Engineering and Technology (NEDUET), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), Resilience Group (RG) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The meeting attracted more than 100 participants.

Under the main theme ‘Tsunami Resilience’, two sessions devoted to national initiatives and regional perspective on tsunami preparedness and resilience, engendered animated and constructive deliberations, culminating in the recommendations and outcomes in this Karachi Declaration.

This Karachi Declaration reaffirms that, tsunami preparedness and resilient communities are very important for the sustainable development in the coastal areas around the world. A strong linkage between the stakeholders in this regard is instrumental. The “end-to-end” solutions are very important for all especially developing economies like Pakistan. The countries should work together through exchanging data, expertise and information to reduce the human and economic loss in case of tsunami.

Therefore the Karachi Declaration:

- Calls on all institutions/agencies to redouble their commitment to tsunami resilience, including reaching out to their national ministries and relevant parent departments.
- Calls on private sector to assist relevant departments and their national governments to enhance disaster management policies and initiatives to ensure capacity building of all the stakeholders
- Calls on foundations and donors to sponsor the roll-out of tsunami preparedness and resilience activities and projects, especially in developing countries.
- Calls on Pakistan, the host nation of the Karachi Conference, and other nations with rich experience in tsunami preparedness activities to share their experiences and to assist in capacity building efforts in other countries, especially developing countries, wishing to implement the tsunami early warning and preparedness activities
- Agrees to the follow up action plan for elaborating the roadmap for tsunami resilience for Pakistan as well as other growing economies of the Asia Pacific Region.
- Expresses thanks to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in particular the (NEDUET) and OXFAM GB for making excellent arrangements for success of the conference as well as for extending warm hospitality to the participants.
- Expresses thanks to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) for providing the funds for this particular initiative
- Expresses thanks to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for the support provided for this important initiative in Pakistan.