

## Inputs from ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

### On the Zero Order Draft of the Co-Chairs for the 3<sup>rd</sup> United Nations Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR)

v.2

- 1- At the outset, throughout the document, we welcome the strong emphasis to engage local governments more actively in the post-2015 DRR framework. This follows the spirit of the HFA in the first 10 years of its implementation. This vision for enhanced multilevel governance is particularly important and valuable considering that WCDRR in Sendai in March 2015 is the first global conference that will play a key role in the design of the post-2015 development framework. We sincerely hope that this progressive vision can inspire other global processes like SDGs and post-2015 climate regime, in order to ensure full recognition, engagement and empowerment of local and subnational governments as governmental stakeholders in all global efforts. Within this view, we look forward to welcoming the decision of Parties to adopt this document as the basis of their negotiations for WCDRR.
- 2- We also commend Co-Chairs and UN ISDR the conduct an open, transparent and inclusive process to engage stakeholders in the development of the zero order draft.
- 3- We are particularly happy to observe inclusion of some new paragraphs that respond to the proposals raised by the LAMG in the zero order draft, in particular in paragraphs 15.d, 25.g, 28.d, introduction of national and local platforms, and adding “cultural” in Priority.3.
- 4- However, there seems to be a number of issues that may need to be further improved and strengthened. We sincerely believe that this spirit of dialogue with Co-Chairs, Parties and the UN ISDR can enable us advance with these issues at this PrepCom-II and result with an enhanced document that can be adopted at Sendai Conference in March 2015 and rapidly implemented afterwards.

#### World Secretariat

ICLEI World Secretariat  
Kaiser-Friedrich-Str. 7  
53113 Bonn  
Germany  
Phone: +49-228/976 299-00  
Fax: +49-228/976 299-01  
Email: [iclei@iclei.org](mailto:iclei@iclei.org)

Legally represented by  
ICLEI e.V., Bonn

#### World Wide Web

[www.iclei.org](http://www.iclei.org)

## 5- General Remarks;

- a. **The need to address the Urban World in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century:** It has to be addressed that the final document will be implemented in a world that is more urbanized than ever, which brings additional challenges and opportunities, as addressed in many recent global reports including IPCC AR5. It also has to be recalled that within the SDGs, HFA is only addressed in the context of Goal 11.b within the context of “Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”. Thus, it would be essential to specifically highlight the realities, challenges and opportunities of this new Urban World as a unique context in particular in paragraphs 3, 5, 15, 22, 27 and 28.
- b. **Vertical integration of actions at all levels:** It has to be noted that active engagement of local and subnational governments as governmental stakeholders in policy making, implementation, capacity building, and raising awareness may have the potential enhance those efforts of national governments as well. Thus, it would be good to emphasize the need to ensure synergy, coherence and harmony of all these efforts, which can be achieved by introduction of the concept of vertical integration in paragraphs 25, and Section.E. It is also recommended to highlight, encourage and strengthen existing national, regional and global initiatives of local and subnational governments in terms of commitments, actions, city-to-city learning, as well as monitoring and reporting, including Durban Adaptation Charter, Compact of Mayors, the carbonn Climate Registry, Cities Biodiversity Outlook, Resilient Cities Congress series.
- c. **Reference to high-risk industrial and energy facilities:** As it has been recently experienced in the cases in Fukushima and Sandy as well as previous cases like Chernobyl and Bhopal, the adverse impacts of disasters are exacerbated with the poor-resilience of high-risk industrial and energy facilities that are getting more closely to densely populated urban and human settlements. There is a need to address safety of these systems in paragraphs 27 and 31.
- d. **Reference to insurance systems:** Considering the expected increase in the diversity, frequency and intensity of disasters, there is a need to address more specifically the role of the insurance systems and the need to consider more innovative models for their effective implementation, in paragraph 28 and/or 32.
- e. **Early action to mitigate and adapt in an unprecedented climate as a disaster risk reduction element:** The latest IPCC reports prove that despite all efforts, there is a higher likelihood for new climate variability globally which is expected result in more severe slow-onset and extreme weather events. Therefore, within the scope of Priority-4, it is essential to integrate DRR with progressive policies like decentralized energy, enhanced energy efficiency, 100% renewables, ecosystem-based adaptation and community-based adaptation, or even massive scale relocation of existing cities and human settlements as innovative preventive actions. Priority-4 should also ensuring appropriate linkage of recovery and reconstruction after the weather related disasters to Warsaw International Program on Loss and Damage.

## 6- Proposals for Specific Paragraphs

No.	Para	Proposal
1.	3.	Include reference to increased vulnerability of urban populations
2.	5.	Include reference to increased urbanization
3.	15.c	- Add “inclusive, transparent, participatory” before governance - Add “and civil society” after stakeholders
4.	15.l	After Africa, add “as well as human settlements globally in coastal and mountainous areas, prone to floods, droughts, extreme heat and close to high-risk industrial/energy facilities”
Priority Area.1 – Understanding risks		
5.	22.a	At the end of the sentence add “cities and human settlements that are in mountainous areas, prone to floods, droughts, extreme heat and close to high-risk industrial/energy facilities” (if urbanization as a concept is not reflected to para.3 or para.5, this para22 can be extended further to highlight the importance of urbanization
6.	22.b	Add “environmental” after “social”
7.	22.e	Add “all levels of governments” after “among” and “at all levels” after “policy makers”
Priority.2 – Strengthened governance and institutions to manage disaster risk		
8.	25.b	Add “and harmonize/integrate” after “implement”
9.	25.f	- Add “and consultation” after “coordination” - Add “and ensure its vertical integration at the national level” after “(e.g. among local governments)”
Priority.3 – Investing in economic, social, cultural and environmental resilience		
10.	27.	Add “energy, infrastructure, land-use and planning” after agriculture
11.	28.b	- Add “and private” after public - Add “high-risk industrial and energy facilities” before “disaster warning”
12.	28.d	Revise the para that underlines urbanization more appropriately, by bringing back an improved version of the previous para17.m included in the pre-zero order draft
13.	28.h	- Add “children, youth, women” before “older”
Priority.4 – Enhancing preparedness for effective response and building back better in recovery and reconstruction		
14.	31.i	- Add a new paragraph that refers to integration of DRR with progressive policies like decentralized energy, enhanced energy efficiency, 100% renewables, ecosystem-based adaptation and community-based adaptation, or even massive scale relocation of existing cities and human settlements as innovative preventive actions.
15.	32.d	- Add a reference to “Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage”
16.	32.g	- Add a new paragraph that refers to the role of the insurance systems and the need to consider more innovative models for their effective implementation
17.	34.c.vi	- Add a new paragraph that refers to local and subnational governments as governmental stakeholders and highlight, encourage and strengthen existing national, regional and global initiatives of local and subnational governments in terms of commitments, actions, city-to-city learning, as well as monitoring and reporting, including Durban Adaptation Charter, Compact of Mayors, the carbonn Climate Registry, Cities Biodiversity Outlook, Resilient Cities Congress series
18.	34.d	- Add a reference to importance and role of social media

19.	38.	- Add “city-to-city” after “South-South”
20.	40.j	- Add “and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability” before “after”