

**Chief Statistician Statement**  
**6<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS - BANGKOK ,**  
**THAILAND**

**Hon. Dato' Sri Dr.Mohd Uzir Mahidin**

**Chief Statistician**

Department of Statistics Malaysia

16-19 October 2018

---

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

1. It gives me a great pleasure to participate in 6<sup>th</sup> Session of the Committee on Statistics and present our view on the **agenda item 3 (d) on "The Disaster-related Statistics Framework: results of the work of the Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific"**. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate UNESCAP for the achievement in producing the Disaster Related Statistics Framework (DRSF).
2. I would also like to express my condolences and heartfelt sympathies to the families affected by the earthquakes and tsunami that struck Central Sulawesi Province on 28 September 2018.
3. Allow me to express our appreciation to UNESCAP for inviting Malaysia to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Expert Group Meeting on Disaster-related Statistics in Asia and the Pacific and Workshop on Disaster Risks in East and North-East Asia on 20 – 22 September 2017 at Incheon, Republic of Korea. Indeed, the three days meeting provides a useful platform for the Department of Statistics, Malaysia to contribute to the fruitful discussion and shared our thoughts & experience with the international experts and participants from Asia Pacific countries in developing and producing disaster statistics.

4. Amongst the topics that are of interest include the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for the production and dissemination of disaster statistics which include presentations on a multi-country drought monitoring project of the Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADI) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and droughts in Mongolia. The Mongolian Dzud, occurring in the cold winter months is a relatively infrequent hazard but one of the most destructive sources of disasters from an economic perspective, especially because of the extreme impacts they have had in the past to livestock, which are the primary income-earning assets for Mongolia's nomadic or semi-nomadic herder households.
5. We also learnt that Mexico and Sri Lanka utilize census data according to the location of the residences of households using GIS to overlay geographic data on hazards, e.g. flood inundation zones. Bangladesh is one of the countries in the Asia Pacific region that has conducted a household survey on disaster prone areas to collect statistics on access to water and sanitation and on selected health indicators, in relation to disaster risks. The descriptions for application of DRSF is included in the framework for environment statistics development 2016-2030 of Bangladesh.
6. We are all exposed to disasters. Although Malaysia lies in a geographically stable region, relatively free from natural disasters, but is affected by flooding, landslides, haze and other man-made disasters. Weather extremes are occurring more frequently and with higher intensities. The economic impact due to disaster including increase in financial expenditure for post disaster. Several case studies have been done by academia related to floods and impact of disaster to vulnerable group for selected states.

7. Following the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, DOSM has agreed to be one of the pilot country for the implementation of the DRSF. For a start, mapping has been carried out on a list of disaster-related variables/statistics within the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) and Disaster Related Statistics Framework (DRSF).
8. Awareness on DRSF to agencies have been done through email, Inter-Agency Group (IAPG) on Compendium of Environment Statistics (CES) and Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM) Orientation Workshop on 19-20 March 2018 organized by the National Disaster Management Agency Malaysia (NADMA). Hence, the mechanism for the necessary statistical collection has been formed by the membership of NADMA in the IAPG CES as well as DOSM in Sendai Framework Monitor (SFM) System.
9. In line with the Eleventh Malaysia Plan 2016-2020, Malaysia is now striving for a higher level of coherence in sustainable development, climate change and disaster risk reduction. Flood mitigation efforts will be further improved, taking into account the intensity and frequency of extreme weather events, through the introduction of innovative solutions.
10. Disaster management in Malaysia has been made more institutionally robust to keep up with the current scenario under the aegis of the National Disaster Management Agency (NADMA), which serves as the National Focal Point for the Sendai Framework. NADMA is spearheading an effort to develop a national legal framework for disaster risk reduction, which would serve as the umbrella for state governments and local authorities in the country. In addition, NADMA has convened a series of national workshops to develop indicators that could be used to report the targets of both

the Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This effort has served to enhance coherence within national reporting systems and identified gaps in policies, strategies and planning in the country, particularly with respect to the local level.

11. Moving forward, DOSM as a focal point in coordination of SDG indicators can leverage on the potential of collaboration across all stakeholders and sectors through this umbrella to support the implementation of DRSF in strengthening of evidence-based reporting. It is vital to establish and nurture multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology, financial & human resources and volunteers to address the challenges of extreme climate events and disasters for sustainable development effectively and coherently.

12. Malaysia looks forward to receive capacity building in terms of technical assistance from UNESCAP on a case study implementation of DRSF for Malaysia.

Thank you.