

Please allow me to make short intervention on disaster statistics because the agenda item was initially expected this morning according to the programme.

With reference to the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction which ended last week in Sendai City, Japan, we wish to inform distinguished participants in this fourth session of Committee on Statistics as follows.

Over 6,500 delegates participated in the intergovernmental and multi-stakeholder events and over 40,000 attended the public forum. 187 States were officially represented. Over 25 Heads of State, Vice Presidents, and Heads of Government attended. 100 participants were at ministerial level. Moreover, 42 intergovernmental organizations, 236 NGOs, 38 UN entities and over 300 private sector representatives attended. The international press was represented by 900 accredited journalists.

The Conference adopted the new international framework for coming 15 years. It's named "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030" as the guide to enhance our efforts for the future including 7 global targets. Four priority areas were also agreed on, focussing on a better understanding of disaster risk, strengthened disaster risk governance, more investment in DRR for resilience and enhanced preparedness, The priority 1 (understanding disaster risk) contains specific reference to disaster statistics. We believe that the new international framework reaffirms and gives additional strong mandate to ESCAP resolution 70/2 on disaster statistics.

I am also pleased to mention that, taking the opportunity of the World Conference on DRR, the establishment of Global Centre for Disaster Statistics was announce on 15 March during the side event cohosted by Tohoku University, UNDP and UNESCAP. We hope that our cooperation will be further strengthened in this regards.