

High-level Leaders' Roundtable 6 on Natural Disasters and Climate Change

Statement by H.E. Abdul Qadir Baloch

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Honorable Chairs, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. Disasters arising out of natural calamities, especially under the effects of climate change, present an unprecedented challenge to the humanity today. To deal with this global concern, we have to seek sustainable solutions through investments in community resilience, strengthening of institutions and development of resilient infrastructures.
2. Pakistan is one of the most disaster prone countries in the World. While we reside in a seismically active fault zone we are also amongst top ten high risk countries affected by climate change. Mindful of the emerging realities, we have strengthened our indigenous response mechanism and are progressively moving toward a proactive approach of Disaster Risk Management, capitalizing on our rich experiences as well as adoption of global best practices.
3. Pakistan will continue to support all global frameworks and initiatives in Managing Risks and Crises differently to save human lives and minimize damages to livelihood. We stand here to commit, Ladies and Gentlemen:
 - 1) That, We principally support all five core commitments proposed in Core Responsibility Four related to natural disasters and climate change of Secretary General's Agenda for humanity.
 - 2) We will continue to work from regional platform and render a reassurance that as a co-lead Country on Disaster Management Confidence Building Measures, under Heart of Asia Istanbul Process, we commit to take forward and implement the Disaster Management Confidence Building Measures Road Map on actionable terms with the cooperation of all relevant countries and development partners.
 - 3) We will strengthen research, capacity building and knowledge management on Disaster Risk Management.
 - 4) We will share at the regional & global level the best practices and lessons learnt from Pakistan's experience of managing natural disasters.
 - 5) We will strengthen Climate & Natural Disaster Risk Management regime following a community participation approach.
 - 6) We will promote gender sensitive, disability inclusive & child centered DRM to ensure that vulnerable groups get their rightful importance in disaster management.
 - 7) We will pursue Multi-hazard Vulnerability and Risk Assessment up to micro level by Year 2030 in a prioritized manner.

- 8) We will support the need based participation of civil society, including local women's groups and encourage the partnership with private sector in the domain of climate change mitigation and disaster management.
- 9) We will seek implementation of our National Disaster Management Plan in next 10 year's timeframe especially for flood mitigation and enhancement of multi-hazard early warning system.

Ladies and Gentleman, Pakistan's achievements and contributions to humanitarian causes are well known. We have arrived here to reassert our commitment to work for saving lives and minimizing the damages caused by calamities and we will continue to do so in the best interest of humanity at large.