

High-Level Leaders' Roundtable
NATURAL DISASTERS & CLIMATE CHANGE:
MANAGING RISKS and CRISES DIFFERENTLY

24 May 2016, 09:00-11:00

Beyazit Hall ICC

Dr. Fuat OKTAY
(AFAD President)

Dear Colleagues

It is a great pleasure and honor for me to be with you on this very special occasion.

As you know, Turkey is a country with a high risk of exposure to both natural and man-made disasters. Most natural disasters can confront us in an unavoidable manner at any time. However, it is possible for us to avoid damage caused by disasters.

Promoting a culture of risk prevention and mitigation in the society, expanding cooperation at the local, regional and international level and playing a leading role in these platforms are among our priority objectives.

Within this scope, Turkey has developed effective models and programmes at the national level over the years.

- All stages of the disaster management cycle; **preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery** are integrated into the disaster management system we have established.
- **National Strategy for Disaster Management** has been prepared in order to reduce possible future risks and losses, with the ultimate aim of creating a disaster resilient society.
- With the same approach, the **National Earthquake Strategy and Action Plan** (UDSEP-2023) has been prepared to minimize the damages and losses in the event of earthquakes.
- With our **TAF-RISK** project, on the other hand, models and methodologies, for performing hazard, exposure, vulnerability and risk analysis have been developed and impact analyses are carried out.
- To organize Turkey's disaster management system at local and central level, Disaster Response Plan of Turkey (TAMP) that covers all the relevant stakeholders has been prepared.

- Joint use of humanitarian and development assistance programmes by ensuring interoperability and avoiding duplication has been achieved which could be seen in Sub-Saharan Africa operations of Turkey that aimed to end suffering from crises such as famine and drought.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Within the framework of the five proposed core commitments for this roundtable, anchored in Core Responsibility Four of the Secretary-General's Agenda for Humanity, Republic of Turkey endorses all core commitments. In accordance with these commitments Turkey commits to:

- Support the commitments under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030; the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. (Core Commitment 1)
- Continue to develop effective models and programmes at the national level in order to reduce possible future risks and losses, with the aim of creating a disaster resilient society. (Core Commitment 2)
- Share its "Disaster-Preparedness" projects with the international community to create further awareness for better disaster-preparedness at the national, regional and global levels. (Core Commitment 2)
- Continue to share national models, programmes and good practices and expand cooperation at the regional and international levels. (Core Commitment 5)

Finally, Turkey has been working closely with its MIKTA partners – Mexico, Indonesia, Republic of Korea and Australia to enhance global and regional responses to natural disasters, particularly through coordinating closely on the Sendai process.

On behalf of the MIKTA group of countries, we are pleased to commit to building a concerted program of action and advocacy to support accelerated implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction within our regions.

We also commit to working with MIKTA partners to advance collectively the relevant outcomes of the World Humanitarian Summit, to maintain momentum and ensure the success of the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, Mexico, in May 2017.