

## Some other activities

### i. ECO-ESCAP Joint DRR Assessment Mission to Afghanistan

As per request by NDMA of Afghanistan, ECO Secretariat in collaboration with ESCAP organized an assessment mission to Afghanistan in February 2017. The aim of the Mission was to make needs assessment and help develop Afghanistan strategy for disaster risk reduction.



During the Mission, a national consultative workshop was also conducted addressing the implementation of Sendai Framework. Representatives from the public and private stakeholders as well as academic communities attended the Workshop. There was also a series of meetings between the Mission delegation and the Afghan high authorities on national and regional issues of interest.

### ii. Workshops on School Safety

The first such ECO workshop was held on 22-24 October 2017 in ECO Secretariat in Tehran, in cooperation with UNESCO. The Workshop included a series of presentations by representative of UNESCO and DRR international expert of the ECO Secretariat, followed by interactive discussions among the participants on the issues such as global and regional frameworks, including ECO Regional Framework for Disaster risk Reduction; tools and techniques to implement the "Comprehensive School Safety" programme, including VISUS tools for assessing school safety; resilient citizenry; culture of safety through integrating DRR and resilience in education system; etc. Day long visits to retrofitted and new resilient school buildings in Tehran as well as IIEES laboratories were also arranged for the participants.



### iii. ECO SHARP project:

This Project was initiated to carry out regional analysis of earthquake hazard zones within the territories of the ECO Member States and reduce risks of future earthquakes.

### iv. ECO project on combating dust haze and sand storms

The project proposal is now being developed by international consultant. ECO is also exploring cooperation with ESCAP and UNEP on this issue.

### v. ECO-UNESCO-HABITAT project on Seismic Hazard and Risk Analysis

The objective of this project is to make updated assessment on the seismic hazardous parts of major cities in Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan and Turkmenistan and to develop seismic risk map for the most vulnerable cities.

### vi. "Building code"

ECO Secretariat has started to explore partnership with some international partners for development and application of regional building codes.

### vii. Disaster information cooperation

ECO will soon start cooperation with the newly established UN "Asia and Pacific Center for Disaster Information Management".

## The Way Forward

The "ECO Regional Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (finalized in 2<sup>nd</sup> Experts Group Meeting on 11-12 October 2017 in Ankara) will be submitted through 28<sup>th</sup> Regional Planning Council on 11-14 December 2017 scheduled in Islamabad, Pakistan for approval.



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## ECO DRR After Sendai: An Overview

### ECO Region in the world map



**ECO Secretariat  
Tehran-Iran**

### ECO Region: some features

- Territory: 8 million square km
- Population: 475 million

Countries: Afghanistan, Republic of Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan (including 6 CASC countries)

- One of the more disaster-prone regions in the world, highly vulnerable to earthquakes, floods, landslides and droughts
- Steady increase in the incidence rate of disasters over the past two decades in the ECO Region



### DRR in the ECO

ECO countries were engaged in the implementation of the Hyogo Plan of Action. ECO continued to be vigilant in the run-up to Sendai and during the Sendai Conference. The regional preparatory process for Sendai culminated in the ECO ministers' meeting on 15 March 2015 on the Sidelines of UN Conference in Sendai. The Meeting discussed the prospects for implementation of the Sendai Framework in the ECO Region, highlighting the need for a regional framework for DRR in post-2015.

Accordingly and following the adoption the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, ECO Secretariat, in collaboration with Member States and international partners, has been working on "ECO Regional Framework for DRR".

### Some activities since Sendai

ECO Secretariat actively participated in the UN regional, sub-regional and global meetings held in the aftermath of Sendai. This, along with interactions with the Member States, helped ECO Secretariat develop the zero draft of the Regional Framework. Interactions with relevant UN bodies, particularly UNISDR and UNESCAP, also helped ECO better grasp how to streamline regional DRR needs and requirements with the global trends and attempts in the Sendai context.

- The 1<sup>st</sup> Experts Group Meeting was held on 26-28 October 2016 in the ECO Secretariat in Tehran to work on an optimal regional framework for DRR in the ECO Region. Experts from Member States and partners, including UNESCAP, UNHABITAT, UNESCO and IFRC attended the Meeting. UNISDR also contributed into the Meeting.



Discussing on the basis of the zero draft, experts managed to identify priorities for a regional framework and elaborate concrete areas for actions in different timeframes. A task group was established to continue work on a more developed regional framework.

ECO Task Group has convened three meetings making more adjustments to the draft Regional Framework.

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Experts Group Meeting was held in 11-12 October 2017 in Ankara, Turkey. Officials and experts from disaster management and emergency situation authorities of the ECO Member States finalized the text of "ECO Regional Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction".



### ECO Regional Framework: Some features

The Regional Framework contains 7 sections addressing, among others, current situation of disasters in the ECO Region, the purpose, rationale, goals and objectives and timeframe of the Framework. It also includes some priority actions and flagship programmes which are defined in line with the 7 targets and 4 priorities of the Sendai Framework, taking into account the specific needs of the ECO Region.

#### Regional Flagship Programmes

- ECO Regional Seismic Risk Atlas
- Risk Transfer including Regional Disaster and Climate Change Insurance
- Regional Disaster Response Preparedness Programme
- Regional Peer Review on the SFDRR Implementation

#### Activities for immediate implementation

- Regional Workshop series on safe school initiative
- Regional programme on the development and application of building code
- Completion of the Inventory of DRR Agencies