

TIEMS Workshop 2011

Ales-Niems, France (22-23 June 2011)

DECLARATION

We as TIEMS members and partners emphasize our full dedication and support to work in the field of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) involving all disaster management stakeholders. It is evident that natural and human induced disasters are an increasing trend due to global warming, environmental degradation, rapid and unplanned urbanization and industrialization all over the world.

The earthquakes and tsunami in Haiti, New Zealand, Japan – the floods in Pakistan, China and Europe, the tornado in the U.S.A. and a number of other disasters in various parts of the world have caused the loss of thousands of human lives and massive damage to physical property worth billions of dollars. It is an established fact that preparedness is the key to minimize the effects of multiple hazards. With this in view, we, the organizers and participants of TIEMS Ales-Nimes workshop 2011, agree unanimously and declare as following:

1. TIEMS, as a dedicated organization in sharing knowledge, exchanging experiences and networking through the workshops and annual conferences in different parts of the world, intends to help nations establish and encourage organizations working for DRR.
2. The best practices, hazard maps and other hardware and software information among the countries with common concern and disasters should be compiled, printed and shared. Similarly, early warning, simulation exercises and evacuation methods must be strengthened through the collaborative works amongst all stakeholders, including the neighboring countries as disaster related events, forecasts and other matters are exchangeable. Likewise, mutual understanding should be developed in formulating regional and international level plans to address disaster risk reduction activities of general interest.
3. Indigenous knowledge in most countries entails its own strategies to successfully cope with disasters. Hence, transformation of such indigenous knowledge and blending them with modern scientific knowledge would certainly enhance the community's capacity for disaster mitigation and preparedness in a sustainable and cost effective manner.
4. Nowadays, global warming is a very big problem. Therefore, the problem of global warming focusing on the issues of climate change needs to be addressed before it is too late.
5. TIEMS urges all governments to work and contribute towards attaining the vision, mission and goals of Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the Hyogo Framework of Action (HFA) by adopting all possible measures and allocating adequate resources.
6. TIEMS platform should be used to influence all member nations to introduce and or develop disaster risk reduction courses at appropriate levels in the schools and in higher education.

7. This is high time to move from policy to action. Therefore, attention is needed to bring necessary policy reform, development and enhancement of prevailing Acts and Regulations with emphasis on preparedness activities.
8. In conclusion, TIEMS requests the concerned governments to prioritize the DRR by allocating sufficient funds by mainstreaming NGOs, INGOs and social organizations to deal with the disasters and address the needs and aspirations of disaster victims.

Done and adopted on 23 June 2011 at Nimes, France