

Reflection by Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of  
Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement/ Director  
General of the Department of Disaster Management  
for the Asia-Pacific Partnership for Disaster Risk  
Reduction (APPDRR) Forum

2-12-2020

Distinguished Representatives from UNDRR and Asia Pacific Member  
Countries

Dear partners

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good Morning, Mingalarbar

I am privileged to share some reflections on current COVID-19  
pandemic and other disasters today. Firstly, May I introduce myself. I  
am Dr. Ko Ko Naing, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of  
Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Myanmar.

As for Myanmar, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster  
Risk Reduction (SFDRR) (2015-2030) and Paris Agreement on Climate  
Change, we have adopted Myanmar Action Plan on Disaster Risk  
Reduction (MAPDRR) in 2017. MAPDRR has identified four priority

areas and included (32) priority projects which cover a wide range of sectors and thematic areas. It calls for multi-sectoral implementations and inclusive approach. In addition, we identified some indicators for MAPDRR which are based on SFDRR. So, implementation of MAPDRR helps us to enable to meet Sendai's global targets and indicators. According to the monitoring of the MAPDRR implementation, it is found that 90 % of priority projects under MAPDRR could be translated into actions. Some of them are ongoing projects and some have been already implemented.

With regards to the Sendai Monitoring Process, SFDRR encourages the nations to make efforts on upgrading data management and application of advanced technology in disaster data processing and management. In commitment of the online reporting for disaster damages and losses data from 2015 to 2017, Myanmar conducted its national level reporting to UNDRR (the then UNISDR) on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Online reporting for 2005-2014 disaster data is underway and we will be finalizing it soon. Based on our experience, it has shown that data management and sharing is of critical importance for risk

informed decision-making and policy formulation. Approaching to the year 2021, what we have experienced in 2020 would be a vivid reminder for all of us that risks can be in various forms ranging from the natural to biological and technical phenomena.

In this sense, resilience building has become our prime agenda and it should be multifaceted approach. Whatsoever investment, development and recovery should be pursued through resilience lens. In addition, synergy, integration and adaptation would be the most powerful tools to deal with the challenges posed by this era of uncertainty. To transform our disaster risk management measures, we need to be more inclusive, collective and harmonize than ever before. Risks are complex and so knowledge management and technical transfer should be carried out more.

To summarize, while climate and disaster risks are more unpredictable, the interaction and partnership between state and non-state actors should be further strengthened. Transformation needs to include the new normal approach for our activities and actions. The strong political will and leadership on disaster risk governance should be complemented with local level engagement

and participation. With that, I would like to thank UNDRR for hosting today APPDRR and look forward to the fruitful outcomes.

Thank you everyone for your presence.