

Sejong Statement

16th Meeting of the Regional Consultative Committee

30 September – 1 October 2021

- A. The Regional Consultative Committee (RCC), established by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), serves as a non-binding mechanism for the development of actionable strategies for disaster risk reduction and climate resilience, promoting cooperative programs on a regional and sub-regional basis, and guides ADPC on its future work and strategy in Asia and the Pacific.
- B. The Republic of Korea, through the Ministry of the Interior and Safety, hosted the 16th RCC meeting with an overarching theme of ***“Financing Resilient Development in Asia and the Pacific,”*** which gives utmost importance to financing resilient development through public and private financing in RCC member countries. Furthermore, the generous support for the 16th RCC meeting from the Swedish Government through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) is graciously acknowledged.
- C. While recognizing the relevance of the commitments made in the *Bangkok Statement* of the 15th RCC meeting in 2020, the 16th RCC meeting focused on accelerating the implementation of global frameworks through the financing of, and regional cooperation on resilient development in Asia and the Pacific, with a particular focus on promoting innovation and inclusion in resilient development practices.
1. We, the participants of the 16th RCC meeting from member countries of Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, P.R. China, India, Lao PDR, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, Viet Nam, and the meeting observers recognize:
 - 1.1. The continued relevance of public and private financing and investments, and the benchmarking of existing initiatives of ex-post and ex-ante climate and disaster risk financing tools, frameworks, and mechanisms, and the engagement of development partners in supporting the required enabling environment for resilient development.
 - 1.2. The need to systematically synergize existing and innovative technology to address data coverage for climate and disaster risk-informed development through accessible decision-support systems from the local to the national level.

- 1.3. The continued relevance of reducing inequalities at all levels by utilizing inclusive, gender-equal, rights-based, and localized approaches towards disaster risk reduction and climate resilience.
2. Building on previous RCC meeting outcomes and the proceedings of this meeting, we;
 - 2.1. Call upon RCC member countries and international observers to support in the implementation of the global frameworks through the allocation of necessary technical, capital, and natural resources, such as nature-based solutions, and green and blue infrastructure, as appropriate at all levels of administration for the implementation of disaster risk reduction and climate resilience strategies, policies, plans, laws, and regulations.
 - 2.2. Commit to strengthening disaster-resilient public and private investments through structural, non-structural, and functional disaster risk reduction and climate resilience measures.
 - 2.3. Promote the development, strengthening, and sharing of good practices on risk transfer, insurance mechanisms/instruments, risk-sharing, and retention to reduce the impact of disasters in close cooperation with partners in the international community, businesses, international financial institutions, and other stakeholders.
3. We also;
 - 3.1. Reaffirm the need for the RCC outputs to inform other regional platforms, specifically related to investing in disaster risk reduction and climate resilience, making infrastructure and systems resilient, and sharing knowledge and innovations.
 - 3.2. Request ADPC to:
 - i. Ensure the utility of gender-equal, rights-based, and localized approaches in regional, national, and local programs to ensure indispensable social participation, collaboration, and synergy at all levels.
 - ii. Actively support member countries in enhancing climate and disaster risk finance and investments mechanisms by assessing and managing their exposure to damages and losses and using the existing and new technologies.
 - iii. Facilitate member countries to identify areas of practical cooperation by promoting and strengthening synergies across institutions, sectors, and mechanisms by leveraging available climate and disaster risk financing opportunities.
 - iv. The continued facilitation of opportunities for learning and exchanging best practices in Asia and the Pacific on climate and disaster risk financing and

investment guidelines and standards through regular consultations, meetings, and learnings.

- v. Support the RCC member countries in the practical application of gender-equal, rights-based, and localized approaches to resilient development by enhancing institutional capacities.
- vi. Support the RCC member countries with tools and systems that help ensure effective and efficient public and private spending on development projects to reduce climate and disaster risks.
- vii. Through dialogue with countries and development partners, promote climate and disaster risk financing interventions that address challenges at the household level and social protection issues, among others.

- D. The participants in the 16th RCC meeting greatly appreciate the support and leadership extended by the Government of the Republic of Korea as the host of the 16th RCC Meeting and express our gratitude to the Government of Thailand for its role as Chair for the RCC in 2020-2021.

Adopted by the RCC members participating in the 16th RCC meeting on 1 October 2021