



18TH RCC MEETING OUTCOME SUMMARY

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1. The Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) and the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), Ministry of Interior of the Kingdom of Thailand express their gratitude to the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Interior, Thailand, Delegations from the ADPC Founding Member Countries & the ADPC RCC Member Countries, the Royal Thai Government Ministries and Departments, ADPC Development Partners and Donors, the Ambassadors of Bangladesh, the Philippines, and Mongolia and Representatives of the Embassies and Diplomatic Missions of Bangladesh, Cambodia, Japan, Lao PDR, Maldives, Nepal, New Zealand, Sweden, and Switzerland for their participation and active engagement in the 18th meeting of ADPC's Regional Consultative Committee (RCC) with an overall theme of **Sustainable Anticipatory Actions for Resilient Development Goals**.
2. The two-day meeting provided an excellent opportunity for ADPC stakeholders and partners to explore regional strategies and cooperation in advancing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Resilience (CR) through technology and innovative solutions, supporting the localization of priority actions, and exploring options for mobilizing disaster and climate financing from global, regional, and national mechanisms.
3. Twenty (20) RCC Member Countries attended the meeting, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor Leste, and Vietnam.
4. The inaugural session of the meeting was graced by Her Excellency Sabeeda Thaised, Deputy Minister of Interior, Government of Thailand, Chair of the ADPC Board of Trustees, the Ambassador of the Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines in Thailand, and the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Thailand.
5. The Secretary General of BIMSTEC, the Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN, and the Director of SAARC participated and highlighted the need for more investments in disaster risk reduction and climate resilience through regional cooperation.

6. The preparation and discussions in the two days were built on the key outcomes of the APEC 2022 meeting under the Thailand presidency, the recent Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) hosted by the Government of the Philippines in October 2024, the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) meeting, the 2024 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP29) held in Baku, Azerbaijan and the G20 meeting Brazil in November 2024. It also drew insights from many events organized by Thailand and other countries to commemorate the 20th year since the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami.
7. The meeting participants committed to accelerating regional and national cooperation in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. They called on ADPC to meaningfully engage governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, and the media for disaster risk reduction and investment in people, goods, and infrastructure.
8. The key outcomes from the high-level panel, technical, and upfront sessions are summarized below:
 - i. **Increase investment in achieving a granular understanding of risk at the national and sub-national levels, develop next-generation capacity-building efforts to enhance resilience at the local level, and leverage emerging technologies for risk reduction.** ADPC must expand its role in supporting member countries, specifically at national and local levels, toward accelerating the progress of achieving DRR targets over the next five years.
 - ii. **Advances in early warning systems with real-time impact-based forecasting are needed, as are safeguards for climate-sensitive infrastructure and strengthening risk-informed decision-making.** ADPC to advocate and influence member countries and partners for more investments in climate-resilient infrastructure, social protection, and nature-based solutions must be supported to enhance adaptation strategies.
 - iii. **Enhancing ICT-based real-time disaster monitoring, transboundary knowledge-sharing, and investment in climate resilience is essential. Uneven progress in DRR and the challenges in accessing climate financing were highlighted, calling for targeted investments in high-risk areas.** ADPC must develop regional and national action strategies and programs that address the urgency of climate resilience, the integration of global frameworks with local policies, the importance of partnerships and collaboration, the use of data-driven and technology-based solutions, the need for economic

and social resilience, and the commitment to a forward-looking DRR and CR agenda.

- iv. **Risk analytics are critical for effective disaster risk reduction and climate resilience actions. Successful interventions of risk investigation and analysis must be replicated, and mechanisms of data sharing be strengthened.** ADPC must play a role in standardizing the methods and format of risk informatics and cooperating with regional organizations in scaling global efforts on risk information and transforming them for national and local-level applications and policymaking, as well as the cross-border exchange of knowledge.
- v. **Localization efforts should prioritize the very purpose of “people” rather than overemphasizing organizations. Local communities’ needs, knowledge, and priorities must guide DRR and CR efforts, ensuring that those initiatives are relevant, effective, and tailored to the unique contexts and lived experiences of those at risk.** ADPC must engage with partners to continue building the capacity of national and local actors, equipping them with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to design, manage, and implement disaster risk reduction and resilience programs effectively. There is an urgent need for greater stakeholder collaboration, flexible financing, localized capacity-building programs, and streamlined localization policies, strategies, and legal frameworks that address bureaucratic challenges, decision-making inefficiencies, and sectoral integration gaps.
- vi. **There is a need to address financing gaps for climate and disaster resilience. Financing mechanisms must be integrated into broader development and resilience strategies.** ADPC to work with partners to address the lack of equitable access to financial resources, particularly for vulnerable communities such as women, indigenous populations, children and youth, persons with disabilities, migrants, displaced populations, and low-income groups. Predictive tools, early warning systems, and impact-based financing models must be promoted to ensure pre-disaster funding. Building disaster-resilient infrastructure is a priority.
- vii. **The private sector’s role in financing disaster risk reduction is critical and must be incentivized to attract private participation.** ADPC must develop an action strategy of public-private collaboration, capacity building, policy integration, and scaling of innovative financial solutions in partnership with the private sector to build long-term climate and disaster resilience.

- viii. **The regional and transboundary cooperation session emphasized climate change as a water crisis, particularly in river basins such as the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna (GBM) basin, where floods, erosion, droughts, and glacial lake outburst floods threaten over 1.5 billion people.** ADPC called for greater multistakeholder engagement to strengthen transboundary water governance and climate resilience, particularly involving youth, local communities, and cross-border cooperation.
- ix. **There is an unprecedented surge in humanitarian needs—driven by armed conflicts, natural disasters, and the escalating impacts of climate change.** This has underscored the urgent need to transform the humanitarian ecosystem to achieve a global commitment to sustainable development and ensure that no one is left behind. ADPC must focus on Localization by shifting humanitarian action to prioritize national and local actors, putting people at the front and center of funding support, decision-making, and action to reduce their risks and vulnerabilities to disasters and climate change.

There is an urgent need to integrate gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) considerations into disaster risk assessment, planning, response, and recovery, highlighting the importance of local knowledge and inclusive community engagement. ADPC must promote the Sendai Gender Action Plan (GAP) and identify key challenges and opportunities to integrate GESI into DRR across the Asia-Pacific region. This includes examining the policy and institutional frameworks that support or hinder GESI mainstreaming in DRR, as well as exploring the role of regional cooperation and collaboration in addressing these challenges.

- 9. ADPC, as the Secretariat of the RCC, is committed to playing a pivotal role in translating the outcomes into actionable strategies for its member countries. The key follow-ups are summarized below:
 - a. ADPC will facilitate the implementation of priority actions for advancing risk information by promoting technology-driven disaster risk management through capacity-building programs, regional cooperation, and investment in emerging technologies. It will support governments and local organizations using AI, real-time sensors, and data analytics to enhance disaster prevention and response while ensuring data interoperability and sustainability. By fostering regional collaboration, ADPC will help establish

standardized data formats, open-access platforms, and a global hub for technological exchange to improve cross-border knowledge sharing. Additionally, ADPC will advocate for increased investment in digital solutions to address climate-related loss and damage and integrate risk information systems into national disaster resilience strategies, ensuring sustainable and adaptive approaches to DRR across the Asia-Pacific region.

- b. ADPC will facilitate the implementation of priority actions for localization by strengthening multistakeholder collaboration, ensuring locally led adaptation and disaster risk management are people-centered rather than sector or organization-driven. To address overlapping work, resource competition, and bureaucratic inefficiencies, ADPC will serve as the bridge to promote coordination and regional cooperation mechanisms among governments, NGOs, and private sector actors, streamlining localization efforts and amplifying DRR and CR at local levels. By enhancing local capacities, decision-making, and leadership skills, ADPC will work with national and local governments to amplify policy implementation and improve access to direct funding by local organizations, small businesses, and community-led initiatives. Addressing flexible financing concerns, ADPC can advocate for greater flexibility in funding mechanisms to ensure that resources directly reach local actors through streamlined mechanisms and provide flexibility for innovations and localized interventions in DRR and CCA. Additionally, ADPC will provide technical assistance in strengthening sectoral coordination through mainstreaming disaster risk management across national and local policies while ensuring their alignment with broader climate adaptation strategies. To tackle challenges in geographically dispersed populations, ADPC will promote regional partnerships and knowledge-sharing platforms to support localized solutions and avoid redundancy. Finally, ADPC will design flexible and localized capacity-building programs tailored to local needs, empowering communities with practical disaster risk reduction skills, inclusive decision-making processes, and improved sectoral integration for long-term resilience.
- c. ADPC will facilitate key priority actions by bridging disaster resilience and climate finance gaps for marginalized communities, advocating for equitable access to funding, and supporting local organizations in developing bankable resilience projects. By strengthening regional collaboration, ADPC will mobilize joint financial mechanisms and align policies with national adaptation plans and DRR plans while promoting cross-border cooperation in disaster resilience and climate finance. By enhancing predictive tools and pre-disaster financing, ADPC will support member countries in integrating early warning systems, impact-based

financing, and forecast-based funding models into national strategies. To scale up investment in disaster-resilient infrastructure, ADPC will support member countries to address data gaps, provide capacity-building programs, and attract private sector participation through policy incentives and innovative investment models by promoting hybrid financing mechanisms, including blended finance, green bonds, and payment for ecosystem services for vulnerable regions. Lastly, by mainstreaming DRR and climate resilience into policies, scaling financial innovations, and fostering multi-sectoral collaboration, ADPC will drive sustainable climate and disaster risk finance solutions across the region.

Participants expressed their gratitude for the generous hospitality provided by the Royal Thai Government and the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center.

