

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

Media Advisory

Venue: Windhoek, Namibia

Ninth Africa Regional Platform (AfRP-9) and Eighth High-Level Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

Theme: *“Act Now for the Resilient Africa We Want”*

INVITATION TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEDIA

WHAT: Ninth Session of the Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the Eighth High-Level Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction.

The platform is aimed at raising awareness of the critical DRR challenges of the region and strengthens synergies among stakeholders for the implementation of Sendai Framework in Africa, particularly the African Union’s Programme of Action in Africa. The event will feature over 30 panel discussions on DRR related topics various DRR related projects exhibited in the virtual marketplace.

WHEN: 21-24 October 2024

TIME: 09:00 -18:00 (CAT)

WHERE: Windhoek, Republic of Namibia

WHO: The 9th Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and the Eighth High Level meeting on DRR is co-organized by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), in collaboration with the Southern African Development Community (SADC). It is hosted by the government of Republic of Namibia.

Objective:

The AfRP-9 will have the following objectives:

- Review Sendai Framework and the plan of Action (PoA) implementation progress, identify key areas of progress and success as well as strengthen commitments to accelerate its implementation;
- Take stock of the implementation of national and local strategies and plans for disaster risk reduction, in synergy with the Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.

- Strengthen existing, and forge new, networks and partnerships at international, national, and local levels...
- Promote the integration and mainstreaming of disaster risk management within and across relevant sectors.

Expected Outcomes:

Main outcomes expected from the 9AfRP include:

- Consolidated stock-take on Sendai Framework and PoA implementation progress by Member States and stakeholders at all relevant levels in Africa...
- Adoption of a Political Declaration highlighting the core high level commitments made by countries throughout the Regional Platforms' discussions...
- Recommendations of actions for policy makers in the areas of sustainable development, finance and economic planning, disaster risk reduction and international trade, climate and ecosystem actions, international cooperation on disaster risk reduction...
- Increased awareness on good practices in implementing the Sendai Framework for reducing risk and building resilience using innovative approaches, tools, and methodologies.
- Official commitments by stakeholders towards DRR in Africa (youth, persons with disabilities, private sector, women's groups, civil society, etc.).
- Official statements made by respective member states ministers in charge of DRR.

Participants:

The AfRP9 is expected representatives of member states, intergovernmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, cooperation agencies, United Nations agencies, donors, development banks, scientific, technological, and academic sectors, financial and planning institutions, as well as other relevant stakeholders from across Sub-Saharan Africa.

Background:

The Africa Regional Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is the premier forum for charting the course of resilience building and risk reduction on the continent. The Regional Platform brings together a wide range of stakeholders from national and local governments, intergovernmental organizations and development partners, civil society organizations and the private sector, and academic as well as scientific institutions, among others. The AfRP9 aims to review progress, discuss gaps and challenges, and identify priority actions for a more effective and impactful implementation of the Programme of Action (PoA) for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa. Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa.

The AfRP-9 is a truly inclusive and dynamic event. Strong partnerships between governments, communities, civil society, and the private sector are vital to build resilience and reduce risk. Ministers and national authorities responsible for disaster risk reduction will come together alongside diverse stakeholders from organizations representing persons with

disabilities, youth, women's groups, among others, as well as leaders from the private sector and science and technology to discuss and act on shared challenges and shared responsibility to build a more resilient future. This enables the creation of beneficial networks for sharing of good practices and lessons learnt to enhance synergies for co-production, coordination, increasing awareness, and mobilizing commitments to disaster risk reduction across the continent.

The AfRP-9 collectively identifies pathways through which we can accelerate the implementation of the political frameworks previously developed and already guiding institutions on the continent. The PoA for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa was endorsed in January 2017 by the African Union's Heads of State and Government. This initiative translates the global objectives outlined in the Sendai Framework into actionable steps tailored to the African context. It 2 serves as a concrete roadmap for African nations to proactively address the multifaceted challenges posed by disasters, integrating risk reduction into development agendas and creating a more resilient future for the continent.

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