

## **Tokyo Declaration on Enhancing Urban Resilience**

The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 was adopted in 2015 at the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, as an international guiding instrument for disaster risk reduction through 2030. The aim of the Framework is *“the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.”* Nations, local governments (including cities), international organizations, and other stakeholders are tasked with implementing its four Priorities for Action, 1) understanding disaster risk, 2) strengthening governance to manage disaster risk, 3) investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience, and 4) enhancing preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery. Cities, which directly face the risk of damage and losses from earthquakes, climate related hazards including storms which are intensified by climate change, and other hazards, will be increasingly expected to play a specific and proactive roles to build resilience.

As the leaders and representatives of the world’s capitals and/or major cities, we have made determined efforts, according to the circumstances of our respective cities, to address the issue of disasters caused by natural and human caused hazards, which can strike any time. Despite the differences in regional characteristics, we believe there are also many best practices that we can share and learn from each other.

At the Urban Resilience Forum Tokyo, held in Tokyo on May 20-22, 2019, we discussed the responsibility that cities share and various measures to ensure urban resilience, reduction of disaster and climate risks, and achieving sustainable development with the aim for cities to better protect the lives and property of their citizens from the impact of disasters.

The following shared vision was adopted at the forum:

## Our Vision

- We aim to realize a shared concept of the “mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction” for the creation of resilient cities.
- We strive to increase understanding of disaster risk, not only by public institutions, but by all citizens - including women, youth and children, people with disability, the elderly and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, as well as nongovernment stakeholders - and the strengthening of disaster resilience per each group’s respective needs, perspectives, and circumstances.

To realize this vision, we, the leaders and representatives of the world’s major cities, have agreed to the following:

## Initiatives to Realize the Vision

- We will enhance urban resilience to protect the lives and property of citizens as a priority issue and will actively consider and implement globally accepted tools and measures, taking into account the geographical characteristics, social and economic environments, and other attributes of our respective cities.
- To enhance resilience to disasters, we will develop infrastructure in accordance with the disaster risks specific for each city, such as the earthquake resistant structures, and flood-control measures.
- For the implementation of measures, we will pursue a comprehensive program that includes raising awareness and interest among citizens, working in cooperation with private companies in possession of exceptional technologies, formulating effective systems and policies, and coordinating among multi sectoral agencies, in order to enhance the understanding of disaster risk throughout communities, encourage individual and cooperative measures, and mainstream disaster risk reduction and resilience into the development of our cities.
- Acknowledging the importance of community leadership, we will design and develop support frameworks that simplify bureaucratic processes, provide appropriate technical expertise and otherwise enable community groups to engage in understanding of risk and undertaking adaptive planning so they are better prepared for the

future. Support arrangements and training programs that build the capability of community leaders will also be developed and shared.

- We will share best practices in order to enhance the overall disaster risk management and resilience capabilities of cities. Also, when disasters occur, we will provide mutual assistance to support a swift and more effective recovery to build back better from disasters.

#### Participating Cities

Tokyo, Bangkok, Buenos Aires, Christchurch, Durban, Hanoi, Jakarta, Mexico City, New Orleans, Paris, Rotterdam, Santiago, Seoul, Tashkent, Tirana, Ulaanbaatar, Wellington

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