United Nations
International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
Secretariat, Geneva

UNISDR Submission to the UNFCCC concerning FCCC/SBI/2011/L.20 related to "Approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change to enhance adaptive capacity."

The following views were developed by the UNISDR based on consultations with Permanent Missions to the United Nations Office at Geneva, through the ISDR Support Group as well as with ISDR partners through the Inter-Agency Group on Disaster Risk Reduction. In particular, contributions were received from Switzerland, Germany, China, Panama, Philippines, the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery of the World Bank (GFDRR), UNU and WMO.

The views specifically focus on the ways that activities and institutions engaged in reducing risk to natural hazards can support climate change adaptation.

Decision and Relevance to ISDR **Subsidiary Body for Implementation Thirty-fourth session, Bonn, 6–16 June 2011** **Agenda item 9** **Approaches to address loss and damage associated with climate change impacts in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change to enhance adaptive capacity - Activities to be undertaken under the work programme (FCCC/SBI/2011/L.20)**	**Views from UNISDR to strengthen integration of disaster risk reduction**
Paragraph 5 *invited* Parties and relevant organizations to submit to the secretariat, by 15 August 2011, further views and information on the themes to be addressed in paragraph 4(a–c): (a) Assessing the risk of loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change and the current knowledge on the same; (b) A range of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, including impacts related to extreme weather events and slow onset events, taking into consideration experience at all levels; (c) The role of the Convention in enhancing the implementation of approaches to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.	UNISDR views and information from disaster risk reduction work: ▪ The use of existing disaster risk reduction work under the ISDR can ensure that Parties apply up-to-date risk modelling such as that used in the *2011 Global Assessment Report* (GAR), to assess losses and damages associated with climate change extreme event impacts in developing countries. Another example of such support to decision making is the *Open Risk Data Initiative* (OpenRDI). ▪ Parties should assist ongoing work to ensure that existing risk assessments for natural hazards incorporate considerations of the changing dynamics of weather-related hazards due to climate change, at the least recognising increased uncertainties. The development and role of the increasing vulnerability and socio-economic trends such as urbanization should also be factored into risk models. Methodologies to achieve this are being developed in the context of the Global Risk Assessment of the Global Assessment Report (GAR) of UNISDR. ▪ Approaches and experience in reducing disaster risk compiled

	by Parties, organizations and individuals under the ISDR provides directly applicable guidance on ways to address loss and damage associated with the adverse effects if climate change. Such experiences are compiled on www.preventionweb.org. ▪ Building on existing loss databases, Parties need to expand and support the network of national disaster loss databases so that climate-related losses can be accounted for in a more precise, robust and harmonized manner that allows cross-country comparisons of losses and damages. For example, *Post Disaster Needs Assessment* (PDNA) contribute with a systematic detailed approach, following disaster events, for such data gathering and analysis. ▪ Standard methodologies are required for assessing drought-risk and recording drought impacts across sectors. Recent studies have highlighted the low capacity to monitor drought risk and impacts effectively. ▪ Existing regional approaches, strategies and policy frameworks to reduce disaster and climate change impacts, including trans-boundary losses and damages need to be better integrated into discussions both on assessing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.