

Distinguished delegates,

The UK welcomes the progress made by the UN, member states and Non-Governmental Organisations to continue implementing the Sendai Framework. We are grateful to UNDRR for organising this year's global platform meeting, and to the Government of Switzerland for hosting it.

The UK has made further progress in the last two years to improve our approach to disaster risk reduction. In March 2018, the Government published the [National Security Capability Review](#), which set out the progress made to ensure we make better use of all of our capabilities to manage the risks we face. This strategic document drives activity across the whole of government, and includes specific activity on strengthened prevention and preparedness activity against some of our most serious risks, and commits the UK to continued cooperation with our international partners on risk reduction.

Risk reduction remains a critical pillar of our development agenda. The UK is committed to helping the most vulnerable prepare for shocks and access support when disaster strikes. Our [Humanitarian Reform Policy](#), published in October 2017, sets out our ambition to strengthen resilience and response to crises by doing more to anticipate, prevent, mitigate, and prepare for disasters. The UK has made new investments in risk management tools, such as the [Index for Risk Management](#). We are investing in climate science and modelling to better understand and predict natural hazards, and to target interventions more quickly. DFID has invested £140 million in the [Building Resilience and Adaptation to Climate Extremes and Disasters programme](#).

We have designed the [Centre for Disaster Protection](#) which provides technical assistance, advice and analytics to developing countries; and the [Global Risk Financing Facility](#), which scales up support to strengthen financial resilience of vulnerable countries to climate-related and natural hazards.

Risk reduction continues to inform our domestic resilience agenda. The UK has improved how we measure domestic progress against risk reduction targets through a more comprehensive approach to data. We recognise that better risk reduction statistics lead to better decisions. To that end, the Office for National Statistics are coordinating efforts to ensure data are at the core of tracking progress towards the Sendai Framework. This includes working in partnership with government, business and civil society to develop innovative data approaches, and improving estimates of disaster mortality which align with those hazards listed in our [National Risk Register](#). In line with the commitment to 'Leave no one behind', we are accelerating efforts to ensure data are timely, comprehensive and disaggregated.

In July 2017, Public Health England published a [comprehensive review](#) of how it is meeting the commitments set out in the Sendai Framework, becoming the first national public health institute to undertake such an exercise. Furthermore, Public Health England has been a key partner in the development of the newly launched WHO Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Framework which supports countries to develop stronger capacities for reducing the health risks and consequences associated with disasters.

UK Science continues to play a pivotal role in supporting the resilience agenda at home and overseas. This supports our national objectives and is leveraged to deliver practical science-based risk reduction services across the world. For example the UK Met Office works with partners across Europe on the [ARISTOTLE project](#) which provides improved natural hazard early warnings. Further afield the Met Office's International Development Teams support regional and national resilience and risk reduction work throughout Africa and South Asia through UKAID-funded programmes such as [Weather & Climate Information Services for Africa](#).

We continue to play a leading role in the international risk reduction agenda.

The UK is using its leadership role at the UN Climate Action Summit to mobilise global commitments from governments, multilaterals and the private sector to systematically take account of climate risks and opportunities in planning and investment decisions, and better integrate climate resilience in those decisions. Public Health England will chair the UNDRR/ISC Technical Working Group on Sendai Hazard Definitions and Classification report to be delivered this year.

At this, the second global platform meeting since the historic agreement in Sendai, we welcome the efforts of the international community on this important topic, reiterate our commitment to sharing expertise, and look forward to fruitful exchanges as we implement the Framework.