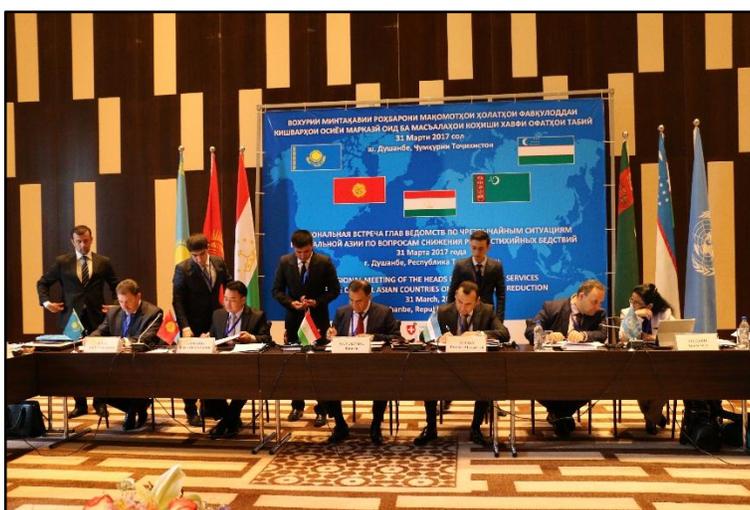




## TAJKISTAN HOSTS CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL MEETING OF THE HEADS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

**Dushanbe, Tajikistan, 31 March, 2017.**

A regional ministerial meeting of the Heads of Emergency Services of the Central Asian countries was held today in Dushanbe hosted by the Government of Tajikistan to discuss and agree on the Regional statement of the countries of Central Asia at upcoming Fifth Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), which will be held in May 2017 in Cancun, Mexico. The disaster risk reduction partners from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan along with the in country represented CA diplomatic missions, UN agencies and other international development organizations have discussed an effective implementation of the national strategies under the Sendai DRR Framework and the progress achieved in the region up to date. The regional meeting contributed towards the regional dialogue and strategic planning on.



Mr. Rustam Nazarzoda, the Chairman of the Committee of Emergency Situations in Tajikistan in his opening remarks stated that “Only through joint regional efforts it is possible to reduce the risk of natural disasters and solve regional issues related to emergencies situations”

The Country Director of the United Nations Development Programme in Tajikistan, Mr. Jan Harfst highlighted the country’s *active participation in the regional DRR initiatives and confirmed the support in fulfilling the Sendai Framework obligations and contribution towards the finalization and implementation of the National Disaster Risk Management Strategy for 2017-2030.*

Following the results of the regional meeting, an outcome document was signed, where the parties decided to consider the information of the meeting participants on implementation of the 2015 Ashgabat Declaration and integration of the recommendation of Sendai framework in Central Asian countries, as well as on behalf of Central Asia to present Dushanbe Declaration, approved at the First Regional Platform in Dushanbe on July 12, 2016 at the Global Forum in Cancun, Mexico, May 22-26, 2017.

The Regional Ministerial Meeting was hosted by the Government of Tajikistan (the Committee on Emergency Situations under the Government of Tajikistan) jointly with the United Nations Development Programme, with technical and financial support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in Tajikistan.

*The First Regional Ministerial meetings on DRR was held in 2013 within Central Asia plus Japan initiative and aimed on strengthening regional collaboration of Central Asian countries in the form of bilateral and multilateral meeting of the heads of delegations of Disaster Management Authorities to discuss the expected outcomes and particular achievement in the field of disaster risk reduction and management.*

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