



Building resilience by scaling local action and strengthening legal frameworks

(Commission E)

Objectives

Commission E will consist of two sessions and discuss two important themes for building resilience – scaling up local organization and action and strengthening legal frameworks for disasters and emergencies. In light of the large number of issues involved, each session will focus on one of these two themes.

Session 1 (9 December, 10.00-12.00) will serve the resilience agenda and the official launch of the One Billion Coalition for Resilience (1BC) and allow participants to discuss 1BC-related issues and make pledges to support it. Supporting and facilitating the 1BC is the voluntary commitment of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to building the resilience of people and communities in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. 1BC aims to create a world where people in every community can survive and thrive in the face of increasing risks and vulnerability. As a stepping stone toward this vision, by 2025 this new initiative will rally communities and partners to engage and inspire one billion people – in high, middle and low income countries – to take active steps to enhance their resilience¹. It will help communities use a coalition-based model to strengthen civic engagement, map their capacities, understand their legal rights and obligations, tap local and external resources, facilitate collective decision-making, organize local household and small business campaigns, and create local solutions to mitigate risks to health and safety. It is a partnership approach that will engage not only the Red Cross but also governments, the United Nations, civil society, the private sector, and academia.

Session 2 (9 December 13.30-15.30) will address progress and opportunities in strengthening legal frameworks for disasters and emergencies. This will include an appraisal of progress thus far in the implementation of the “Guidelines for the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance,” as adopted by the 30th International Conference in 2007, noting the main factors for success, opportunities and remaining challenges. It will also look to the role of domestic law in promoting disaster risk reduction, in particular with regard to relevant commitments in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. It will finally highlight findings about gaps in domestic law related to the promotion of training and delivery of first aid by laypersons.

Both sessions will have interpretation in all of the Conference’s working languages.

¹ Resilience: how individuals and communities exposed to adversity anticipate, reduce the impact of, cope with, and recover from the effects of adversity without compromising their long-term prospects.

Session 1: Launch of the One Billion Coalition for Resilience

Time and location: 9 December, 10:00–12:00, Room 2 (ground floor)

Interpretation: English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian

Chair: Dr. Seyed Amir Mohsen Ziaee, President, Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Rapporteur: Harold Brooks, Senior Vice President for International Operations, American Red Cross

Keynote Speaker: Ms. Erithran Cousin, WFP Executive Director (TBC)

Panellists:

- 1) Ms. Sung-Joo Kim, President of the Republic of Korea National Red Cross
- 2) H.E. Ambassador Thani Thongphakdi, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva and Co-Chair of the Main Committee of the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
- 3) Mr. Abbas Gullet, Secretary General of the Kenya Red Cross Society
- 4) Mr. Neil McFarlane, Chief of Regional Coordination and National Implementation Unit, UNISDR
- 5) Ms. Natasha Issa, Group Head of Corporate Responsibility, Zurich Insurance Company

Guiding questions for panel discussion:

- What does it take to build successful **multi-sectoral collaboration** in support of strengthening resilience?
- What models can we use to build the **sustainability of investments** in resilience among different stakeholders?
- What **strategies** can be used to achieve multiplier effects and viral impact using low-cost, DIY (Do It Yourself), self-replicating approaches?
- What are three simple **principles** that would best guide our work on scaling resilience?

Reference documents

- Information on the One Billion Coalition for Resilience (available at: <https://www.ifrc.org/one-billion-coalition>)
- One Billion Coalition for Resilience – Discussion Paper on Levels of Resilience (available at: <https://www.ifrc.org/global/documents/secretariat/201503/1bc-paper.pdf>)

Session 2: Strengthening legal frameworks for disasters and emergencies

Time and location: December 9, 13.30-15.30, Room 1

Interpretation: English, French, Spanish, Arabic and Russian

Chair: Ing. Fabrizio Curcio, Head of the Department of Civil Protection, Italy

Rapporteur: Robert Kwesige, Secretary-General, Uganda Red Cross

IFRC-UNDP MOU signature ceremony: Izumi Nakamitsu, Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator and Director Crisis Response Unit, UNDP, and Robert Tickner, Under-Secretary General for Partnerships, IFRC

Panelists:

- Izumi Nakamitsu, Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant Administrator and Director Crisis Response Unit, UNDP
- Fine Tuitupou-Arnold, Secretary-General, Cook Islands Red Cross
- Florika Fink Hoojier, Director of Strategy, Policy and International Co-operation, ECHO
- Bernardo Castro, Chief of Cabinet, National Emergencies Office, Chile
- Pascal Cassan, Head, Red Cross Red Crescent First Aid Reference Centre

Guiding questions

- How can we accelerate progress in the development of rules and procedures for international disaster response?
- What lessons can other countries learn from your country's legal framework for disaster risk reduction?
- How can our laws and policies best promote training and delivery of first aid?
- How can National Societies and the IFRC best contribute to strengthening legal frameworks in these areas?

Reference documents

Official documents:

- Background report on strengthening legal frameworks for disaster response, risk reduction and first aid (2015)
- Checklist on law and disaster risk reduction (2015)

Additional background:

- Ready or Not? Third progress report on the implementation of the "Guidelines on the domestic facilitation and regulation of international disaster relief and initial recovery assistance" (2015)
- Handbook on law and disaster risk reduction (2015)
- Effective law for disaster risk reduction: a multi country study (2014)
- Law and first aid: promoting and protecting live-saving action (2015)

All documents and additional background for Session 2 will be available at www.ifrc.org/dl_32ic.