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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR  
THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON  
NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION  
Geneva, 14-18 March 1994  
Agenda item 5

PREPARATIONS FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION  
Draft decisions submitted by the informal working group on procedures

DRAFT DECISION I

Provisional rules of procedure for the World  
Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, as contained in document A/CONF.172/PC/L.1, with the following amendments:

- (a) Rule 6 should read as follows:

The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States a Bureau consisting of 26 members, consisting of a President and 25 Vice-Presidents, one of whom shall also serve as Rapporteur-General. These officers shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. In addition, the Conference shall have four

Vice-Presidents ex officio. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

(b) Also in rule 6, after the phrase "ex officio", a footnote should be added that would read as follows:

The four ex officio Vice-Presidents will be the Chairmen of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the Chairman of the Preparatory Group of the Scientific and Technical Committee for the Conference, and "the father" of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, Mr. Frank Press.

(c) In rule 51, paragraph 1, the following sentence should be added: No quorum shall be necessary for the Chairman of a Technical Committee to declare the meeting open.

(d) In rule 66, the members of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction should be added to the list of those invited to participate as observers, without the right to vote;

(e) The title of rule 66 should read "Members of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, and representatives of national committees for the Decade, of scientific associations and of the private sector".

#### DRAFT DECISION II

##### Organization of work of the Conference

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference that:

(a) The plenary of the Conference establish one Main Committee to consider the substantive item or items before the Conference and a number of Technical Committees to allow an expanded review and analysis of specific topics particularly relevant to disaster reduction;

(b) Subject to a decision of the plenary of the Conference, the Main Committee could establish subcommittees or working groups as required;

(c) The Conference elect 25 Vice-Presidents, distributed on the following basis:

African States	7
Asian States	5
Eastern European States	3
Latin American and Caribbean States	5
Western European and other States	5

(d) The Conference shall have the following four Vice-Presidents ex officio: the Chairmen of the Special High-level Council and of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the Chairman of the Preparatory Group of the Scientific and Technical Committee for the Conference, and "the father" of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, Mr. Frank Press.

#### DRAFT DECISION III

##### Provisional agenda for the Conference

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the provisional agenda of the Conference as contained in the annex to the present decision.

#### ANNEX

##### Provisional agenda for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction

1. Opening of the Conference.
2. Election of the President.
3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.
4. Adoption of the agenda.
5. Election of officers other than the President.
6. Organization of work, including the establishment of committees.
7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
  - (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
  - (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
8. Activities for natural disaster reduction.
9. Programmes and policies of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction:
  - (a) Regional reports;
  - (b) Public and private sector interface.

10. Natural disaster reduction:
  - (a) Vulnerable communities;
  - (b) Hazard resistant structures;
  - (c) Effects of disasters on modern societies;
  - (d) Interrelationship between technological and natural disasters;
  - (e) Economic aspects of disaster reduction for sustainable development;
  - (f) Warning systems;
  - (g) Drought management.
11. Outcome of the Conference, including a plan of action for natural disaster reduction.
12. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

DRAFT DECISION IV

Provisional programme of work for the Conference

The Preparatory Committee for the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction decides to recommend to the Conference the adoption of the proposed programme of work of the Conference as annexed to the present decision:

ANNEX

Provisional programme of work for the Conference

Sunday, 22 May

p.m.

Pre-Conference consultations

Plenary

Monday, 23 May

a.m. and p.m.

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|---------------|---|
| <u>Item 1</u> | Opening of the Conference   |
| <u>Item 2</u> | Election of the President   |
| <u>Item 3</u> | Adoption of the rules of procedure  |
| <u>Item 4</u> | Adoption of the agenda  |
| <u>Item 5</u> | Election of officers other than the President   |
| <u>Item 6</u> | Organization of work, including the establishment of committees   |
| <u>Item 7</u> | Credentials of representatives to the Conference: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee</li></ol> |

	<u>Item 8</u>	Activities for natural disaster reduction
	<u>Item 7</u>	Credentials of representatives to the Conference: (b) Report of the Credentials Committee
<u>Tuesday, 24 May and Wednesday, 25 May</u>		
p.m.*	<u>Item 8</u>	Activities for natural disaster reduction [conclusion]
<u>Friday, 27 May</u>		
a.m. and p.m.	<u>Item 12</u>	Adoption of the report of the Conference

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\* Extended as necessary to accommodate the list of speakers.



