

# **International Disaster Resilience Leaders Forum Incheon 2022**

## **Opening and Congratulatory Remarks ( 5 min)**

**Ms. OU Boqian, Secretary-General, TCS**

**September 28, 2022**

Excellencies,

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning!

It is my pleasure to join you in the International Disaster Resilience Leaders Forum Incheon 2022. Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS) feel honored to have this opportunity to play a part in this forum as a co-organizer to further promote disaster resilience not only in its member states namely China Japan and ROK but also in this region and beyond.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank UNDRR, Incheon Metropolitan City, the Incheon Institute, and the Ministry of the Interior and Safety of ROK as the main organizers, for preparing and successfully hosting the forum in a timely manner, inviting guests from all over the world.

It is commonly acknowledged that ensuring adequate preparation can minimize disaster risk and damage. Precious lives could be saved, and long time accumulated economic development and assets could be protected, and our resilience for a faster and better recovery could be enhanced.

To collaboratively achieve such preparation for disasters, it is essential that we share both experiences and lessons of previous disaster responses, and learn from each other.

This Forum brings together representatives and experts in disaster management from different parts of the world. Every region they represent has different climates, topographies, demographics, population densities, cultures, and ways of technological development. Such diverse “practical experiences” the experts will bring and share today and tomorrow will not only be a great resource of learning benefiting the participants here but also the a great tailwind for implementing the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

I am truly pleased that what will be shared at this forum will be compiled into policy recommendations and disseminated to cities around the world to be better equipped for disaster prevention and risk reduction.

Since its establishment by the governments of China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea in 2011, TCS has promoted a variety of cooperation among the three countries. Among these, cooperation on disaster risk reduction has stood in the front. The Trilateral Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management, which began in 2009, has been held every two years to share the latest information on each country's policies and responses to disasters. TCS has actively participated and supported since its 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting in 2011 and strongly promoted cooperation in disaster risk reduction among governments and research institutes of the three countries.

In close cooperation with UNDRR and relevant partners in China, Japan, and the Republic of Korea, TCS has been disseminating information on disaster management by organizing seminars and training programs as well as publishing booklet on best practices for the application of technologies for disaster risk reduction in the three countries.

In so doing, the Trilateral Cooperation on disaster risk reduction has contributed to promoting the priority actions of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction 2015-2030, namely "Understanding disaster risk" and "Strengthening disaster risk governance for disaster risk management" at the regional and global levels. As we

are approaching the mid-term review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction next year in 2023, I believe that further expansion of the scope of trilateral cooperation is required.

The further development of cooperation among the three countries would be able to set strong examples of enhanced disaster management to the world, in particular, in the areas of leveraging technologies as well as aging societies with disaster resilience.

To this end, together with the Ministries of the three countries in charge of disaster management, the ASEAN Secretariat, the UNDRR, local governments in the three countries, as well as all the stakeholders that are participating in this forum, TCS is committed to further enhancing regional and international cooperation in disaster management to further implement the Sendai Framework.

I sincerely wish a total success of this Forum.

Thank you very much.

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