

COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION/POSTAL OPERATIONS COUNCIL
Committee 4 (Cooperation and Development)
Sustainable Development Project Group
Ad Hoc Group on Disaster Risk Management
Update of the UPU disaster risk management framework
Memorandum by the International Bureau
 (Agenda item 4)

1 Subject Revision of the UPU disaster risk management framework to align with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.	References/paragraphs §§ 1 to 9
2 Decision expected Take note of this document and make any comments deemed appropriate.	

I. Background

1 In April 2014, the Ad Hoc Group on Disaster Risk Management (AHG DRM) under the CA C 4 Sustainable Development Project Group adopted the UPU disaster risk management (DRM) framework based on relevant international instruments related to disaster risk management, including the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience and the Hyogo Framework for Actions 2005–2015 (HFA) (see document CA C 4 SDPG AHG DRM 2014.1–Doc 3).

2 In March 2015, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) organized the third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) in Sendai, Japan. The WCDRR pointed out that the HFA had been an important instrument for raising public and institutional awareness, generating political commitment, and focusing and catalyzing actions by a wide range of stakeholders at all levels. However, disasters had continued to exact a heavy toll, affecting the well-being and safety of individuals, communities and countries as a whole. To address those challenges, the WCDRR adopted a new international framework: the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030. This document identifies the principles and priorities relevant to the postal sector and outlines how they can be incorporated into the UPU framework.

II. Outline of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030

Expected outcome and goal

3 Building on the HFA, the Sendai Framework aims to achieve a "substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries".

4 To attain this outcome, the Sendai Framework pursues the following goal: "Prevent new and reduce existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery, and thus strengthen resilience."

5 More specifically, the Sendai Framework includes the following seven global targets:

- i Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030;
- ii Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030;
- iii Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global GDP by 2030;
- iv Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030;
- v Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020;
- vi Substantially enhance international cooperation for developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of this framework by 2030;
- vii Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments by 2030.

Four priorities for action

6 Taking into account the experience gained through the implementation of the HFA, and in pursuance of the seven global targets and expected outcomes, there is a need for focused action in the following four priority areas:

- i Understanding disaster risk;
- ii Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk;
- iii Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience;
- iv Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

International cooperation and global partnership

7 The United Nations and other international and regional organizations engaged in disaster risk reduction are requested, as appropriate, to enhance the coordination of their strategies. The entities of the UN system are also requested to support the priorities of states in a balanced, well-coordinated and sustainable manner, within their respective mandates, through the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience and other relevant frameworks.

8 In this context, the UPU, as a member of the UN family, has to reflect the principles and priorities of the Sendai Framework in a revised UPU framework, to fit into the international framework and meet relevant objectives.

III. Proposals for amendment of the UPU framework on DRM

9 In order to incorporate the principles and priorities of the Sendai Framework into the UPU framework, the current UPU actions would be revised and regrouped under the four new priorities for action, plus the priority of "international cooperation and global partnership", as set out in the Sendai Framework and discussed above:

<i>Sendai Framework</i>		<i>Revised and regrouped UPU actions</i>	<i>Former UPU actions</i>
<i>Priorities for action</i>	<i>Related paragraph</i>		
1 Understanding disaster risk	25 (i)	1.1 Support disaster risk assessment through the UPU guide on DRM	5.1
	25 (a) (c)	1.2 Enhance use of GIS-based addressing systems as a tool for disaster risk identification, assessment and preparedness	5.3
	25 (b) (g)	1.3 Encourage member countries to raise awareness on the environmental impact of postal activities and to make the postal network an infrastructure with resilience	7.4
2 Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk	28 (a)	2.1 Enhance cooperation with restricted unions and coordination with regional development plans	(New action)
	28 (f)	2.2 Improve monitoring and evaluation of each member country's effort with national and local authorities	4.2
	28 (a) (c) (e)	2.3 Enhance platforms for accumulating and sharing experiences on DRM structures and governance	5.2, 6.2, 7.1
	28 (b)	2.4 Convene seminars/workshops in each region to develop a deep understanding of DRM	6.3
	28 (b)	2.5 Maintain the UPU greenhouse gas inventory for UPU member countries	7.2
	28 (b) (e)	2.6 Exchange environmental best practices	7.3
3 Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience	31 (i)	3.1 Promote cooperation between postal operators and national/local governments	4.3
	31 (a)	3.2 Improve the use of information and communication technology for DRM	6.5
	31 (b)	3.3 Promote the development and strengthening of disaster risk transfer in close cooperation with partners in the international community, businesses, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders	(New action)

<i>Sendai Framework</i>		<i>Revised and regrouped UPU actions</i>	<i>Former UPU actions</i>
<i>Priorities for action</i>	<i>Related paragraph</i>		
4 Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction	34 (a)	4.1 Support implementation of a DRM policy in member countries through the guide on DRM for the postal sector	3.1, 4.1
	34 (b)	4.2 Provide a guide and training tools/materials for risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery	6.1
	34 (a) (d) (g)	4.3 Enhance UPU coordinated response and provide assistance in resuming postal services after disasters by strengthening the UPU Emergency and Solidarity Fund	8.2, 8.4, 8.5
	34 (b)	4.4 Establish postal security standards to define the minimum physical and process security requirements applicable to critical facilities within the postal network	8.3
	34 (a) (b)	4.5 Enhance use of the Emergency Information System (EmIS) to share information on emergency situations among member countries	6.4
	34 (c)	4.6 Consider the possible participation of the postal sector in early warning systems	5.4
5 International cooperation and global partnership	48 (a) (b)	5.1 Integrate DRM into the Istanbul World Postal Strategy for 2017–2020	2.2
	48 (a) (b)	5.2 Enhance cooperation between the UPU and other international and regional organizations	1.1, 2.3