

## **Closing Remarks**



**Mr. Koji Suzuki**

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On behalf of the organizers, I would like to make closing remarks.

We have over 300 participants from 34 countries and 20 international organizations to the International Forum on Tsunami and Earthquake. The number is far beyond the one the organizers had expected.

In the forum, we had recovery reports from ministers and high ranking officers from Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Maldives, India, Pakistan and Thailand. In the experts meetings they discussed in three groups on Housing, Livelihood, Organizational and Institutional Arrangement touching on cross-cutting issues of environment and gender. In addition to these discussions, we also had a lot of precious reports and comments from the experts. As the output of the forum we

approved the Kobe Communiqué for further implementation of Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA).

Emergency response had been attracting or still attracts a lot of attention globally.

However, they come to understand that the better recovery or building back better than before concept is the best solution to create resilient societies to disasters. In that context, further contribution from IRP is strongly required.

Finally, Hyogo plays and will play a crucial role as the global hub for disaster reduction and we, ADRC and IRP, will do our best for it. I thank the participants for their contributions to the forum and I also thank the IRP and ADRC Secretariat for their dedication. Thank you very much.

