



**CHARTER**  
of the  
**INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION WORKING GROUP**  
**SUBCOMMITTEE ON DISASTER REDUCTION**  
**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND SUSTAINABILITY**  
**NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL**

**A. Official Designation**

The International Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (IDRR WG) is hereby reestablished by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC); Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability (CENRS); Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction (SDR).

**B. Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of the IDRR WG is to facilitate and promote international cooperation in science and technology as it relates to all phases of natural and technological disasters. The IDRR WG shall provide an interagency forum in which to exchange information on disaster-related science and technology programs and capacities of other countries, and to identify and coordinate opportunities for beneficial international collaborations. The IDRR WG shall also coordinate the United States Government's support of the U.S. National Platform for the United Nations International Strategy on Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) and lead other international efforts as requested by the SDR Co-chairs.

**C. Functions**

The functions of the IDRR WG include the following:

1. Provide near-term recommendations to the SDR, as permitted by law and consistent with Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) guidelines, identify opportunities to enhance coordination between the SDR and non-Federal stakeholders for international disaster risk reduction efforts, including the incorporation of non-Federal representatives on the:
  - U.S. National Platform for the UNISDR; and
  - U.S. delegations to future UNISDR Global and Regional Platform meetings;
2. Facilitate development and implementation of U.S. strategy and goals for UNISDR meetings and activities;
3. Facilitate domestic use of international best practices for disaster risk reduction;
4. Coordinate domestic Federal policies with international agreements and work abroad for disaster risk reduction; and
5. Provide a mechanism to inventory and share information regarding international disaster risk reduction activities of the Federal agencies.

Through its Co-chairs, the IDRR WG will recommend action on topics related to international contributions or activities for disaster risk reduction. The group will provide recommendations to SDR and coordinate efforts through the U.S. Department of State.

## **D. Membership**

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the IDRR WG:

- Department of Commerce;
- Department of Defense;
- Department of Health and Human Services;
- Department of Homeland Security;
- Department of the Interior;
- Department of State;
- Department of Transportation;
- Environmental Protection Agency;
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
- National Science Foundation; and
- U.S. Agency for International Development.

The following components of the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the IDRR WG:

- Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include such other Executive branch organizations, departments, and agencies as the IDRR WG Co-chairs may, from time to time, designate.

## **E. Leadership and Reporting**

The SDR Co-chairs shall appoint the Co-chairs of the IDRR WG. The IDRR WG Co-chairs, or their designee(s), shall report on activities of the working group at meetings of the SDR on a quarterly basis or as requested by the SDR Co-chairs. To enable communication of issues on international science and technology (S&T), the SDR leadership and/or the IDRR WG Co-chairs will coordinate the IDRR WG activities with the Subcommittee on Topics in International Science, Technology and Innovation (TISTI) under the Committee on Homeland and National Security.

## **F. Private-Sector Interface**

The IDRR WG may seek advice from the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and will recommend to the SDR and/or the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology the nature of additional private-sector<sup>1</sup> advice needed to accomplish its mission. The IDRR WG may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

## **G. Termination Date**

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the SDR prior to its expiration, the IDRR WG shall terminate no later than March 31, 2017.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private sector," but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or Tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, and international bodies.

## **H. Determination**

I hereby determine that the establishment of the International Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.