

## APPEAL OF THE HEADS OF EMERGENCY AUTHORITIES OF CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL

## Your Excellency, Mr. Antonio Guterres,

## We, the Heads of Emergency Authorities of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan

**Recognizing** that the countries in our region are currently facing the challenges of escalating adverse consequences of natural disasters, accidents and catastrophes, along with increased vulnerability of people to natural and man-made hazards further exacerbated by the emergence of new issues, notably climate change,

**Considering** the risks of large-scale emergencies that have the potential for transboundary impacts,

**Supporting** the Global Initiative announced by you during the 27<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties of the United Nations Climate Change Convention which was held in Egypt in 2022, with the aim of providing early warning systems for the entire world's population by 2027,

**Recalling** the Political Declaration of the High-level meeting on the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted on May 18, 2023, which notes the need to increase the coverage of early warning systems everywhere, particularly in developing countries,

**Understanding** that bolstering regional and international cooperation in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and disaster prevention and management is a vital step toward sustainable development, prosperity, and security within the Central Asian countries,

We hereby express our intent to establish a Regional Early Warning and Mutual Information System for disaster threats and occurrence to reduce socio-economic damage and losses from disasters, particularly those of large-scale and transboundary nature, the goals and objectives of which align with the Global Initiative and the Seventh Global Target of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for 2015-2030.

The establishment of the Regional Early Warning and Mutual Information System for disaster threats and occurrence will allow to:

- facilitate the immediate and reciprocal exchange of operational information concerning natural, man-made, and environmental accidents with factors that may potentially affect neighboring countries in the region;
- take timely measures to reduce socio-economic damage and losses from emergencies, especially those of large-scale and transboundary nature;
- raise public awareness regarding risks and threats and prepare the citizens for emergency situations.

To achieve these goals, the Regional Forum – Meeting of the Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries has developed and approved the following documents:

- Regional Disaster Risk Profile of Central Asian countries;

- Strategy for the development of cooperation among Central Asian countries in disaster risk reduction for 2022-2030;
- Regulation on the Regional System of Early Warning and Mutual Information for disaster threats and occurrence;

Implementation of this regional initiative will lead to efficient disaster risk reduction, promote adaptation to climate change, and ultimately save the lives of millions of people in the region who currently live under the constant threat of devastating transboundary hazards.

The Heads of Emergency Authorities of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan would like to extend their gratitude for your decision to prioritize the Republic of Tajikistan among the first thirty countries to benefit from the Global Initiative 'Early Warnings for All.'

Along with this, we would like to underscore the importance of recognizing Central Asia as a unified region that shares similar natural conditions, climate change impacts and transboundary hazards. These commonalities necessitate a comprehensive, coordinated effort to establish a Regional Early Warning System.

We hereby request your support for the Regional Initiative aimed at establishing the Central Asian Early Warning and Mutual Information System for disaster threats and occurrence (REWS), and kindly ask you to include its development in the program for implementing the Global Initiative 'Early Warnings for All'.

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First Deputy Minister of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic	A. Mambetov
Chairman of the Committee for Emergency Situations and Civil Defense under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, Lieutenant Colonel Law Enforcement	R. Nazarzoda
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