Inputs for WHS – Messages by IASC Task Team on Preparedness and Resilience
'Align Strategies to Manage Risks of Humanitarian Crisis and Build Resilience'

Message 1: Preparedness Remains Relevant and Requires Continuing Attention. Preparedness remains a critical element of emergency management. It enables effective response to save lives and protect rights and livelihoods in situations where levels of community and institutional resilience are insufficient. IASC capability, both collective and that of its individual members, continues to form a key part of a layered national/regional/international "insurance policy".

Message 2: International Humanitarian Action is Vital to National and Local Capacity. Operational experience and capability of international humanitarian action should be used to assist governments in developing national and local emergency response capacity. This capacity development builds resilience and allows scarce international humanitarian funding to be focused on the most deprived humanitarian situations. The coherent approach in the IASC/UNDG/UNISDR Common Framework for Preparedness is effective in this effort.

Message 3: Preparedness is Action Oriented. IASC Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP) is a dynamic, action-oriented approach that saves time, focuses effort and helps build institutional resilience. It is updated with lessons learned and good practices emerging from responding to the most recent emergencies. (It is interoperable with the approach used for coordination of preparedness for refugee situations.)

Message 4: We Invest in Early Warning but We Need Early Action. The IASC uses a layered approach to early warning, including through the Index for Risk Management (InfoRM) and bi-annual Early Warning-Early Action (EWEA) Reports. This is linked to accountability in the IASC system for directing Early Action.

Message 5: Flexible and Predictable Funding is Required. Flexible and predictable funding by new and existing partners is required for IASC members to support national and local government in developing their response capacity and taking early action.

Message 6: Use a Risk Management Approach. We encourage national and local governments to embed risk management and disaster risk reduction in their development policies and practices. We promote a multi-hazard and multi-sectoral approach to risk management, addressing all events with humanitarian consequences.

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