



**THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR
THE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE**

THE ZANZIBAR SUB-NATIONAL PLATFORM MEETING

**PREPARED BY:
DISASTER MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
THE SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
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1.0 Introduction

Disaster management requires the knowledge, capacities and inputs of a wide range of sectors and organisations, including governments, United Nations agencies present at the national level, NGOs, civil society and the private sector, as appropriate. These entities mostly affected directly or indirectly by disasters and many have specific responsibilities that impinge upon disaster risks in the country. Thus, National platforms are multi-stakeholders forums with a responsibility for oversight of all DRR activity on a national basis. To acknowledge this the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar initiated the establishment of a sub-national platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in May 2011. A three day workshop was organized. The Disaster Management Department (DMD), Second Vice President's Office (SVPO) facilitated and functioned as the secretariat of the meeting.

With the continued support of UNDP as part of the United Nations Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP) new activities were planned. In the year 2012/2013, DMD and SVPO planned to have a 2 day meeting in each half of the year. For the first 2 quarters of the year, The meeting was held at Visitors Inn Jambiani, South Region Unguja. The meeting gathered together several key stakeholders and enhanced the dialogue between them on various issues as presented by the prescribed resource persons. The DMD planned the platform meeting to start in the same day where the World commemorates the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on 13th October, 2012. Thus apart from having such kind of the workshop, DMD considered the event as part of commemorating the Risk Reduction Day.

2.0 Objective

In accordance with the Hyogo Framework for Action first priority, the establishment of a DRR sub-national platform seeks to contribute to the building of Zanzibar institutional resilience to disasters in an effort to achieve sustainable development.

3.0 Activities conducted

Organize and run discussions among DRR stakeholders within the sub-national platform through a 2 -day workshop in Unguja.

4.0 Proceeding of the activities

4.1 Participation

The meeting involved participants from sectoral departments, disaster management committee members, and representatives from private sector and civil society organizations at national and local levels. The total number of participants was 46 of whom 13 were female and 33 were male. Three participants were drawn from Pemba. (For specific details about the participants see Annex 1.)

The excretion of participants was based partly on the key DRR actors as identified in the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP). Overall the key sectors and stakeholders within disaster risk reduction were represented and present in the meeting such as disaster management, environment, health, fire and rescue services, water and sanitation, food security, police, media, private sectors and NGOs. A wide range of technical experts from such sectors participated and contributed in the discussions. Disaster Management Department formed the secretariat of the meeting during the workshop.

4.2 Opening ceremony

The Principal Secretary for The Second Vice President's Office, Dr Khalid Salum Mohamed opened the workshop by emphasizing the need for having such valuable forums in DRR as the matter is everyone's responsibility. He further urges the need of mainstreaming DRR issues in every stakeholder's plans, programmes and activities especially by allocating specific budget for disaster management in their respective sectors.



Dr. Khalid S. Mohamed, The Principal Secretary (SVPO)
delivering opening speech

The Principal Secretary was also assigned the responsibility of launching two among the principal documents in disaster management in Zanzibar – Zanzibar Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan and Zanzibar Disaster Communication Strategy. The documents were printed in August 2012 and as DMD is planning to test them through simulation exercise; it was seen as the right time to disseminate them to the DRR stakeholders. In his speech, Dr. Khalid urges the participants and the general public to use those guidelines which articulate clearly the responsibility of each stakeholder before and during emergencies. The appropriate use of those guidelines will lead to minimizing of occurrences and the impacts of emergencies in the community. He stressed that, effective preparedness and mitigation of hazardous events will result into efficient response.

After the opening ceremonies and launching of ZEPRP and ZDCS, the workshop was chaired by the Deputy Principal Secretary in the Second Vice President's Office, Mr. Said Shaaban Said

The planned structure for the meeting was based on the following three themes:

- Introducing the concept and Value of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Presentation of Zanzibar Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan

- Presentation of Zanzibar Disaster Communication Strategy
- Planning for the way-forward

4.4 Presentations

4.4.1 Introducing the concept and value of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

The paper was presented by Director, Disaster Management Department Zanzibar, Mr. Ali Juma Hamad. The topic was intended to introduce the concept and value of commemorating International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDR) to the participants. He stated that commemorating IDDR is considered by The UN General Assembly as a way of promoting a global culture of disaster reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness and it encourages every citizen and government to take part in building more disaster resilient communities and nations.

Introducing the history of IDDR, he explained that originally the day was celebrated on the second Wednesday of October (resolution 44/236, 22 December 1989), but now the UN General Assembly decided to designate October 13th each year as the date to celebrate the IDDR (resolution 64/200, 21 December 2009). Through this celebration, the governments, organisations, communities and individuals measure their work, achievements and challenges in reducing the risk of disaster and plans ahead on the process.



Mr. Ali J. Hamad Introducing the concept and value of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction to Participants

The director pointed out that, the day is normally accompanied by special theme in each year. The 2012 theme is 'Women and Girls: the [in]Visible Force of Resilience'. This theme seeks to highlight the need for women and girls to be at the forefront of reducing risk and managing the world's response to natural hazards. He added that, the theme acknowledges the world say that "Women and girls are powerful agents of change" and they have unique knowledge and skills which are crucial when addressing or managing disaster risks. They must participate in poverty reduction, climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction that will shape their future and those of their families and communities.

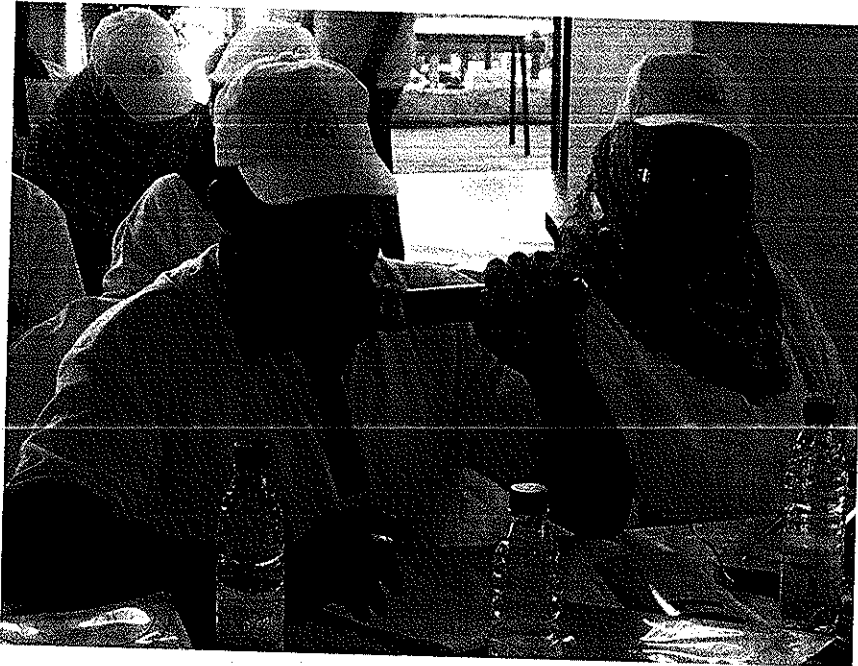
In his concluding remarks, the presenter urged all DRR stakeholders to allocate time and funds for commemorating this day each year and by aligning to the theme.

4.4.2 Presentation of Zanzibar Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan

The presentation was made by Mr. Ameir Makame Ussi, from Disaster Management Department. Mr. Ussi started by explaining the whole process passed through towards having the Zanzibar Preparedness and Response Plan (ZEPRP) document in hand and then elaborated the concept and rationale of Zanzibar to have such kind of document. He further stated the structure and content of the Plan.

Explaining the concept of ZEPRP, Mr. Ussi stated that, it is a government document that:

- Assigns responsibility to organizations and individuals for carrying out specific actions during an emergency or major disaster.
- Sets forth lines of authority and organizational relationships and shows how all actions will be coordinated.
- Describes how people and property are protected.
- Identifies personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available — within the country.



Mr. Ussi Presenting the Zanzibar Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan

He also stated the reason why Zanzibar needs an EPRP as when disasters strike a community, people expect government officials to take immediate action to deal with the problem. And thus, the government is expected to organize its resources, and solicit assistance from outside, if necessary so that appropriate actions are taken to protect people and their property from such hazards.

Speaking on the structure and content of the plan, Mr. Ussi said that the plan is a "Multi-Hazard" functional plan, and is divided into three components of which there are a number of items which qualify the objective of each component:

- i. **BASIC PLAN** which outlines an overview of government approach to emergencies.
- ii. **ANNEXES** that address specific activities critical to emergencies.
- iii. **APPENDIXES** that support each Annex.

The presenter then outlined the plan development and maintenance which articulate that:

- i. The BASIC PLAN and its Annexes and Appendices will be reviewed annually;
- ii. The plan will be updated based upon deficiencies identified during actual emergency or exercises; and
- iii. Revised or updated planning documents will be provided to all departments, agencies, and individuals tasked in those documents.



Participants in workshop session

4.4.3 Presentation of Zanzibar Disaster Communication Strategy

Ms. Hamida Mussa Khamis, a senior officer from Disaster Management Department presented the Zanzibar Disaster Communication Strategy to the workshop participants. She explained the purpose and importance of the Strategy to the Zanzibar Community from disaster management point of view. The importance is based on the need of having effective and efficient communication between stake holders before and during disaster strikes in Zanzibar. By having such communication strategy will further foster preparedness and response measures in the country.

The presenter then elaborated briefly on the structure and content of the strategy which include Basic Strategy, Annexes and Appendixes. Basic plan describes the context of the strategy in three characteristics:

- a) Operability— the ability of emergency responders to establish and sustain communications in support of mission operations.
- b) Interoperability— the ability of emergency responders to communicate among various levels of government, using a variety of frequency bands, as needed and as authorized. System operability is required for system interoperability.
- c) Continuity of Communications — the ability of emergency response agencies to maintain communications in the event of damage to or destruction of the primary communication infrastructure.

Annexes describe aspects which the communication will be focused to. There are three annexes in the document namely Communication, Warning and Public information.

4.4.4 Planning for the way-forward

The nature of DRR platform meetings is based on the getting all the relevant stakeholders together and agree on shared goals, scope and agenda for DRR. Through this meeting and the presentations, the participants had the following comments:

- i. Based on the experience of two ferry accidents operation, there should be a very strict control and administration of activities and roles among

institutions involved in the operation and coordination as articulated in the documents as overlapping of roles and responsibilities of concerned parties were clearly noted.

- ii. There should be well set mechanisms of acquiring relief items and emergency operation equipment during disaster strikes.
- iii. The government and other stakeholders should invest in disaster management knowledge to children especially in the area of preparedness to a number of hazards.
- iv. There should be a special programme which will enable each identified stakeholder in the document to know clearly and deeply its roles and responsibilities before, during and after emergencies. Disaster management department and The Second Vice President's office should take a leading role on this.
- v. Control of emergency related information is still not yet well managed. There are a number of unauthorized source of information for public use which deliver wrong information earlier than those supposed to provide such public information.
- vi. Public media should be used entirely to educate people on disaster management especially radio, television and and special articles in newspapers.
- vii. Some institutions have been left as supporting agencies in the annexes which will lead to be irresponsible during emergencies. Such institutions include Zanzibar Maritime Authority in Search and Rescue and Mufti Office in Mass care and Settlement.

The next platform meeting is planned to be held in February 2013.

4.5 Closing Ceremony

The meeting was officially closed by Deputy Secretary, Mr. Said Shaaban Said who was also a chairperson of the meeting. Mr. Said thanked every participant and everybody of whom their engagement and participation in the meeting are highly valued. He further reminded the participants that such meeting will be

held regularly in every year and the forthcoming meeting will be based on reports and plan from some stakeholders in DRR.

5.0 Conclusion

The platform meeting was successful in sharing information on the very crucial disaster management guidelines in Zanzibar. They are essential tools to facilitate implementation of Zanzibar Disaster Management Policy. The meeting also developed a foundation base for the knowledge network and enhanced the stakeholders understanding of why disaster risk reduction is everyone's responsibility and anybody may affect or be affected by disaster. It made clear that women and girls have big role in developing positive changes in disaster management, thus should be part of "disaster management agencies".

The experience from the two meetings showed that the platform can be used as an efficient forum for advocating DRR and facilitate effective participation in the programmes and activities as initiated by DMD.

Annex 1

List of Participants

	Name	Organization
1.	Ali Makame Hamad	Police Head Quarter Zanzibar
2.	Rukaiya Mojamed Said	E.H.U
3.	Is-haka Kundi Ngwali	West District Unguja
4.	Juma L. Songwa	Special Department- KVZ
5.	Col. MR Tongora	Tanzania People's Defense Force
6.	Maua R. Said	Second Vice President's Office
7.	Suleiman Takadir	Department of Education
8.	Ibrahim Ally Hassan	Fire and Rescue Force
9.	Khamis A. Khamis	Department of Disaster Management, Pemba
10.	Dr. Salma Masauni Yussuf	MoH. Epidemiology Unit
11.	Rukia Omar Ramadhan	Urban District
12.	Khamis A. Suleiman	Tanzania Meteorological Agency, Zanzibar
13.	Khamis T. Khamis	Special department - KMKM
14.	Iddi Othman Iddi	ZNCCIA
15.	Haidar B. Machano	Department of Environment
16.	Dr. Waridi A. Mussa	Department of Veterinary Services
17.	Renj Masoud Ali	NAMMN
18.	Juma Vuai Mbarouk	Central District
19.	Khalfan H. Hassan	ZMA
20.	Ubwa S. Suleiman	Tanzania Red Cross Society, Zanzibar
21.	Khamis Fom Khamis	Central District
22.	Ramadhan M. Muombwa	Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA)
23.	Mussa S. Kisenge	Department of Disaster Management, Pemba
24.	Makame KH. Makame	Department of Disaster Management
25.	Omar Ali. Moh'd	Department of Disaster Management
26.	Haji Faki Hamduni	Department of Disaster Management
27.	Ussi Juma Hassan	JEMZA
28.	Thabit Ali Nassor	Ministry of Information
29.	Omar Abubakar	ANGOZA
30.	Khadija Abdallah Juma	ZCPM
31.	Mwanajuma Ame Mossi	ZCPM
32.	Ali Haji Khamis	Department of Disaster Management
33.	Dr. Abubakar S. Rajab	Second Vice President's Office
34.	Salma Amir Kusangi	Second Vice President's Office
35.	Mustafa M. Ussi	Second Vice President's Office
36.	Nadya Abdalla Ali	Department of Disaster Management
37.	Farhat Moh'd Hafidh	Department of Disaster Management
38.	Halima Habuba Mohamed	Department of Disaster Management

39.	Ali Ameir Iddi	Department of Disaster Management
40.	Moh'd S. Ameir	Department of Disaster Management
41.	Fatma M. Ahmed	Department of Disaster Management
42.	Raya S. Abdalla	Department of Disaster Management
43.	Abubakar M. Ibrahim	Department of Disaster Management
44.	Haji Moh'd Issa	Department of Disaster Management
45.	Sabiha H. Khatib	Department of Disaster Management
46.	Mwatum Kheir	Department of Disaster Management