

14. Natural Disasters [55]

Commitment:

“Recognizing the challenges faced by countries in the aftermath of natural disasters to provide security and basic services to civilians, we reaffirm our commitment to support Haiti and will work to strengthen existing international coordination mechanisms to improve the timeliness, effectiveness and coordination of the international response to such disasters and will continue to support the United Nations Global Platform for Disaster Risk reduction.”

G8 Muskoka Declaration: Recovery and New Beginnings

Assessment:

Country	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada			+1
France			+1
Germany		0	
Italy			+1
Japan			+1
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Average Score		+0.78	

Background:

Natural disasters have become increasingly important in the global arena due to increases in population growth and population density around the world. In this commitment, the G8 has affirmed its obligation to provide security and basic services to civilians that have experienced the atrocity of natural disasters. In order to fulfil this obligation, the G8 has affirmed its dedication to improving the timeliness, effectiveness and coordination of international responses to natural disasters. To facilitate the improvements of the international response mechanism, the G8 has asserted its support of the United Nations Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The first session of the United Nations Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was held in Geneva on 5 June 2007. Through a General Assembly resolution on the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, the UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction provides a forum “for all parties involved in disaster risk reduction, namely governments, United Nations agencies, international financial institutions, regional bodies, civil society, the private sector, and the scientific and academic communities...to discuss the advocacy for effective action to reduce disaster risks.”¹⁵⁶² The UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is based upon the Hyogo Framework for Action, which is a report that outlines a comprehensive agenda on how to make nations more resilient when natural disasters occur.

The Hyogo Framework was signed by 168 nations at the World Conference for Disaster Reduction in Kobe, Japan and “seeks to achieve a substantial reduction of disaster losses in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets” within a timeframe of ten years, from 2005

¹⁵⁶²Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations (Geneva). 5 June 2007. Date of Access: 11 November 2010. www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2007/index-first.html.

until 2015.¹⁵⁶³ There are five main tenets of the framework: “(1) Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation; (2) Identify, assess, and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning; (3) Use knowledge, innovation, and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels; (4) Reduce underlying risk factors; (5) Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.”¹⁵⁶⁴ These guidelines provide a foundation upon which the G8 can structure its initiatives to curtail the debilitating effects of natural disasters in vulnerable regions around the world.

On January 12, 2010, an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.0 occurred Haiti, with the epicentre located near the town of Léogâne, a few miles west of Port-au-Prince. Beyond the initial humanitarian needs Haiti expressed, “The G8 foreign ministers pledged to direct attention to Haiti’s ‘longer-term infrastructure, governance and security needs.’”¹⁵⁶⁵ In this sense, there is a longer commitment made to rehabilitating the region and creating mechanisms that better prepares it for dealing with natural disasters and reducing its risk of debilitation by them. Adopting the guidelines expressed in the Hyogo Framework and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction help the G8 nations achieve this end while improving the current international disaster response mechanisms in place.

Commitment Features:

The G8 has acknowledged the need to provide security and basic needs to those in areas ravaged by natural disasters, as recently experienced in Haiti. The way in which the G8 aims to achieve this end is through improvements in the timeliness, effectiveness and coordination of the international responses to natural disasters. Improvements to the international disaster response mechanism can be made by adhering to the principles provided by the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) on strengthening preparedness and effective response.

The HFA asserts that “losses can be substantially reduced if authorities, individuals and communities...are well prepared and ready to act and are equipped with the knowledge and capacities for effective disaster management.”¹⁵⁶⁶ It then outlines six factors that improve preparedness for effective response. Four of the six factors that resonate most with the G8’s commitment to disaster risk reduction are: (1) “Strengthen policy, technical and institutional capacities in regional, national and local disaster management, including those related to technology, training, and human and material resources; (2) Promote and support dialogue, exchange of information and coordination among early warning, disaster risk reduction, disaster response, development and other relevant agencies and institutions at all levels, with the aim of

¹⁵⁶³ Acting with Common Purpose: Proceedings of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations (Geneva) 5 June 2007. Date of Access: 10 November 2010. www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2007/first-session/docs/session_docs/GP-Acting-with-common-purpose.pdf.

¹⁵⁶⁴ Acting with Common Purpose: Proceedings of the first session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, United Nations (Geneva) 5 June 2007. Date of Access: 10 November 2010. www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2007/first-session/docs/session_docs/GP-Acting-with-common-purpose.pdf.

¹⁵⁶⁵ Policy Brief: Haiti and Natural Disasters at the G8 and G20, G8/G20 Research Group (Toronto) 13 June 2010. Date of Access: 5 November 2010. www.g8.utoronto.ca/briefs/haiti-100613.pdf.

¹⁵⁶⁶ Hyogo Framework For Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, United Nations ISDR (Geneva) July 2007. Date of Access: 11 November 2010. www.preventionweb.net/files/1037_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf.

fostering a holistic approach towards disaster risk reduction;”¹⁵⁶⁷ (3) “Promote the establishment of emergency funds, where appropriate, to support response, recovery and preparedness measures; (4) Develop specific mechanisms to engage the active participation and ownership of relevant stakeholders, including communities, in disaster risk reduction.”¹⁵⁶⁸ The improvements to the international disaster response mechanism—specifically timeliness, effectiveness and coordination—can be made by adhering to these four guidelines.

In regards to its reaffirmation to support Haiti through its reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts, the G8 has pledged its adherence to the Accra Agenda for Action (AAA) in 2009 and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness in 2005. Through this framework, the effectiveness of the aid initiative to Haiti can be monitored and improved by complying with the main principles of the AAA which are to maintain transparency in the deliverance administration of aid, reform the financial and organizational policies pertaining to aid, and to make aid specific to the nation it is meant to assist.¹⁵⁶⁹ Effective assistance to Haiti can therefore be made by adhering to these principles.

Scoring Guidelines:

-1	Member does not assist Haiti in its reconstruction efforts by adhering to the Accra Agenda for Action guidelines AND does not take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms AND does not take steps to support the UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.
0	Member takes action in one or two of the following areas: (1) assists Haiti in its reconstruction efforts by adhering to the Accra Agenda for Action guidelines OR (2) takes steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms OR (3) takes steps to support the UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.
+1	Member state assists Haiti in its reconstruction efforts by adhering to the Accra Agenda for Action guidelines AND takes steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms AND takes steps to support the UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Lead Analyst: Ava-Dayna Sefa

Canada: +1

Canada has fully complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 26 October 2010, the Government of Canada announced the establishment of Canada’s National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction as part of Canada’s commitment to comply with the HFA. The National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction is directed at “ensuring a

¹⁵⁶⁷ Hyogo Framework For Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, United Nations ISDR (Geneva) July 2007. Date of Access: 11 November 2010. www.preventionweb.net/files/1037_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf.

¹⁵⁶⁸ Hyogo Framework For Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, United Nations ISDR (Geneva) July 2007. Date of Access: 11 November 2010. www.preventionweb.net/files/1037_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf.

¹⁵⁶⁹ The Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action, The Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development (Paris). Date of Access: 17 November 2010. www.oecd.org/dataoecd/11/41/34428351.pdf.

comprehensive, coordinated approach to emergency preparedness and disaster recovery,” as explained by the Honourable Vic Toews, minister of public safety.¹⁵⁷⁰

On 9 November 2010, The Honourable Beverley J. Oda, minister of international cooperation announced that the provision of CA\$550,000 to the Oxfam-Quebec, who are currently undertaking relief work in the Artibonite region of Haiti.¹⁵⁷¹ In addition, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has also given CA\$450,000 to the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), the lead health agency in Haiti.¹⁵⁷²

On 23 October 2010, in the light of the cholera outbreak, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced the immediate provision of CA\$1 million to the government of Haiti. Prime Minister Harper assured: “Canada will continue to respond to the needs of the people of Haiti who are experiencing tremendous hardships in the aftermath of the earthquake that took place earlier this year.”¹⁵⁷³

Also on 23 October 2010, Prime Minister Harper declared that Canadian Government will additionally be providing CA\$20 million to the World Food Programme in support of the school feeding initiative. The initiative is directed at meeting Haiti’s long-term developmental needs and is endorsed by the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission.¹⁵⁷⁴

In addition to the financial support of Haiti, Canada remains an active donor of the UN Integrated Regional Information Network.¹⁵⁷⁵

On 11 January 2011, Minister of International Cooperation Beverly J. Oda announced that Canada “will put more than CA\$93 million into new initiatives to improve children’s health, education and agriculture in Haiti.”¹⁵⁷⁶ The contribution will be used to fund eight new projects that Minister Oda says “will re-ignite the courageous determination and hope for a better future that Haitians have demonstrated in the last year.”¹⁵⁷⁷

¹⁵⁷⁰ Government of Canada launches National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction, Public Safety Canada (Ottawa) 26 October 2010. Date of Access: 11 December 2010.

<http://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/media/nr/2010/nr20101026-eng.aspx?rss=true>.

¹⁵⁷¹ Canada Continues to Support Haiti’s Fight Against Cholera, the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ReliefWeb (Geneva) 9 November 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010.

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/FGAI-8B2T5A?OpenDocument>.

¹⁵⁷² Canada Continues to Support Haiti’s Fight Against Cholera, Canadian International Development Agency (Gatineau) 9 November 2010. Date of Access: 19 November 2010.

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900sid/FGAI-8B2T5A?OpenDocument>.

¹⁵⁷³ PM announces Canada to help Haiti deal with outbreak of cholera, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 23 October 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010. <http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/acdi-cida/ACDI-CIDA.nsf/eng/ANN-118153053-S3C>.

¹⁵⁷⁴ PM announces further action to alleviate child hunger in Haiti, Office of the Prime Minister (Ottawa) 23 October 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010.

<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/media.asp?category=1&featureId=6&pageId=26&id=3737>.

¹⁵⁷⁵ UN Integrated Regional Information Network, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (Geneva). Date of Access: 10 December 2010. <http://www.irinnews.org>.

¹⁵⁷⁶ Canada unveils another \$93-million for Haiti quake reconstruction, The Globe and Mail (Ottawa). 11 January 2011. Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/ottawa-notebook/canada-unveils-another-93-million-for-haiti-quake-reconstruction/article1865975/>.

¹⁵⁷⁷ Canada unveils another \$93-million for Haiti quake reconstruction, The Globe and Mail (Ottawa). 11 January 2011. Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/ottawa-notebook/canada-unveils-another-93-million-for-haiti-quake-reconstruction/article1865975/>.

Thus, Canada has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the recovery of Haiti and the introduction of the National Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction, which is an initiative aimed at improving international disaster response mechanisms and supports the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction through the HFA.

Analyst: Vera Gavrilova

France: +1

France has fully complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 6 November 2010, the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Crisis Centre conducted an operation in which a “French military plane delivered 3 tons of humanitarian cargo to Port-au-Prince” in Haiti. The purpose of this delivery was to “combat the cholera epidemic and to help the victims of Hurricane Tomas.”¹⁵⁷⁸ On 9 November 2010, the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs furthermore declared a €100,000 contribution to fund Haitian childcare facilities.¹⁵⁷⁹

On 26 October 2010, France sent a medical mission to Haiti in an effort to combat the cholera epidemic, and reaffirmed its cooperation “with the World Food Programme in Central America to facilitate the delivery of water purification equipment.”¹⁵⁸⁰

On 20 September 2010, French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner signed a “Memorandum of Understanding on the rehabilitation of the State University Hospital of Haiti,” a joint Franco-American initiative that “France and the United States will equally co-finance ... for a total cost of US\$50 million.”¹⁵⁸¹

In addition, on 25-26 September 2010, Minister Kouchner visited Haiti and, “during a working meeting with Ronald Baudin, Haitian Minister of Economy and Finance ... signed an agreement for the payment of the second portion of the €20 million in French budgetary aid for 2010.”¹⁵⁸²

¹⁵⁷⁸ French assistance to the disaster victims, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Paris) 9 November 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/haiti_473/france-and-haiti_2641/political-relations_6180/haiti-french-assistance-to-the-disaster-victims-09.11.10_14494.html.

¹⁵⁷⁹ French assistance to the disaster victims, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Paris) 9 November 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/haiti_473/france-and-haiti_2641/political-relations_6180/haiti-french-assistance-to-the-disaster-victims-09.11.10_14494.html.

¹⁵⁸⁰ Deployment of an emergency medical mission to Haiti, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Paris) 26 October 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/haiti_473/france-and-haiti_2641/political-relations_6180/deployment-of-an-emergency-medical-mission-to-haiti-26.10.10_14445.html.

¹⁵⁸¹ Reconstruction of the State University Hospital in Haiti, Department of Foreign and European Affairs (Paris) 20 September 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/haiti_473/france-and-haiti_2641/political-relations_6180/reconstruction-of-the-state-university-hospital-in-haiti-20.09.10_14281.html.

¹⁵⁸² Visit of Bernard Kouchner to Haiti, Department of Foreign and European Affairs (Paris) 25-26 September 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/haiti_473/france-and-haiti_2641/political-relations_6180/visit-of-bernard-kouchner-to-haiti-25-26.09.10_14309.html.

The French Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs further stated its plan to donate an additional €20 million to Haiti in 2011.¹⁵⁸³

On 15 August 2010, French President Nicolas Sarkozy wrote a “political proposal to reinforce the EU’s capacity to respond to natural disasters” to the President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso.¹⁵⁸⁴

On 3 February 2011 the French government donated US\$1.184 million to Jamaica to advance Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives in the region. “Ambassador of France to Jamaica Marc-Olivier Gendry presented the donation to “the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) to carry out a vector control and sanitation project in collaboration with the Ministry of Health.”¹⁵⁸⁵ “The project will assist the country with implementing strategies that increase protection of vulnerable areas and reduce risks associated with natural disasters. It will include watershed and coastal rehabilitation as well as climate change awareness.”¹⁵⁸⁶ This contribution is aligned with the first factor included in the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) guidelines which is to “strengthen policy, technical and institutional capacities in regional, national and local disaster management, including those related to technology, training, and human and material resources.”¹⁵⁸⁷

Thus, France has been awarded a score of +1 for its commitment to support Haiti and its efforts to improve the timeliness, effectiveness and coordination of the international response to natural disasters.

Analyst: Kelsey Komorowski

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 11 November 2010, Germany announced it would commit €200,000 to help fight the cholera epidemic that has emerged in Haiti in the wake of the January 2010 earthquake.¹⁵⁸⁸

¹⁵⁸³ Visit of Bernard Kouchner to Haiti, Department of Foreign and European Affairs (Paris) 25-26 September 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files_156/haiti_473/france-and_haiti_2641/political-relations_6180/visit-of-bernard-kouchner-to-haiti-25-26.09.10_14309.html.

¹⁵⁸⁴ Letter from President Nicolas Sarkozy to President of the European Commission Jose Manuel Barroso (Paris) 15 August 2010. Date of Access 15 November 2010. http://www.elysee.fr/president/root/bank_objects/Lettre_M_Barroso.pdf.

¹⁵⁸⁵ ODPEM gets donation from France for vector control and sanitation, Jamaica Information Service (Kingston) 3 February 2011, Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://www.jis.gov.jm/news/top-stories/26682-odpem-gets-donation-from-france-for-vector-control-and-sanitation>.

¹⁵⁸⁶ ODPEM gets donation from France for vector control and sanitation, Jamaica Information Service (Kingston) 3 February 2011, Date of Access: 8 February 2011. <http://www.jis.gov.jm/news/top-stories/26682-odpem-gets-donation-from-france-for-vector-control-and-sanitation>.

¹⁵⁸⁷ Hyogo Framework For Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, United Nations ISDR (Geneva) July 2007. Date of Access: 10 November 2010. http://www.preventionweb.net/files/1037_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf.

¹⁵⁸⁸ Federal Foreign Office Releases More Funds to Fight Cholera in Haiti, German Federal Foreign Office (Berlin) 11 November 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2010/101111-Haiti-Cholera.html>.

Thus, Germany has been awarded a score of 0 for its support of Haiti.

Analyst: Andrew Lynes

Italy: +1

Italy has fully complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 11 November 2010, the Italian Civil Protection Department (CPD) and the World Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) regarding disaster risk reduction. World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development Katherine Sierra stated, “The Italian authorities have undertaken exemplary measures in earthquake emergency management, in response to the L’Aquila earthquake that struck in April this year, and the Memorandum will allow other countries to benefit from their experience.”¹⁵⁸⁹ The MoU seeks to improve the collaborative process of information and experience exchange between the Italian government and the World Bank pertaining earthquake preparedness and response.

On 1 September 2010, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs responded to an appeal for humanitarian aid issued by Pakistani Government by providing the Pakistani National Disaster Management Authority over 41 tonnes of medical supplies and equipment.¹⁵⁹⁰

Italy remains an acting donor to the UN’s Central Emergency Fund (CERF), with a total of US\$1.5 million donated in 2010 and US\$1.3 million donated in 2011.¹⁵⁹¹ Moreover, as an active donor to the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), Italy has provided US\$1.282 million in support of the organization’s needs in 2010.¹⁵⁹² Also, Italy has pledged funds to support the activities of the World Health Organization in Haiti.¹⁵⁹³

Thus, Italy has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the recovery of Haiti, its commitment to improving international disaster response mechanisms, and its support of the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

Analyst: Vera Gavrilova

¹⁵⁸⁹ World Bank and Italian Government Strengthen Collaboration on Disaster Risk Management, World Bank (Rome) 11 November 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010.
<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22386118~pagePK:64257043~piPK:437376~theSitePK:4607,00.html>.

¹⁵⁹⁰ Pakistan: Cargo Plane with Italian Humanitarian Aid Lands, Protezione Civile Nazionale (Rome) 3 September 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010.
http://www.protezionecivile.it/cms/view.php?dir_pk=52&cms_pk=18534.

¹⁵⁹¹ CERF Pledges and Contributions: 2006-2010, Central Emergency Response Fund (New York) 9 December 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010.
<http://ochaonline.un.org/cerf/Donors/Donors/tabid/5370/language/en-US/Default.aspx>.

¹⁵⁹² GFDRR Consolidated Pledges and Contributions as of December 1, 2010, Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery 1 December 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010.
http://www.gfdr.org/gfdr/sites/gfdr.org/files/documents/GFDRR_Consolidated_Pledges_Dec01-2010.pdf.

¹⁵⁹³ Haiti: Controlling the Cholera Outbreak, World Health Organization (Port-au-Prince) 29 November 2010. Date of Access: 10 December 2010.
<http://www.who.int/hac/crises/hti/highlights/november2010/en/index.html>.

Japan: +1

Japan has fully complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 4 August 2010, Japan provided relief supplies through financing provided to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in response to flooding that occurred in the eastern part of Afghanistan.¹⁵⁹⁴

On 14 August 2010, Japan mobilized ¥100 million of aid to Gansu Province, China in response to a mudslide disaster.¹⁵⁹⁵

Japan made a particularly large contribution to the international effort aimed at providing flood relief to Pakistan throughout August 2010. Six helicopters and more than 200 troops from the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force were deployed to assist with the transportation and distribution of relief materials.¹⁵⁹⁶ In meeting summit goals for strengthening international coordination mechanisms, the Japan International Cooperation Agency has worked with the World Bank and Asia Development Bank to assess damages and needs in order to assist in the reconstruction process.¹⁵⁹⁷

Japan has remained committed to providing both emergency relief and long-term reconstruction assistance to the people of Haiti in the aftermath of the devastating 12 January earthquake, as Japan is well positioned to provide aid to Haiti “given its vast experience in the areas of earthquake-disaster relief and seismic engineering.”¹⁵⁹⁸

As of August 2010, the Government of Japan has disbursed over US\$100 million in relief assistance to Haiti. This assistance has included both emergency aid—such as the provision medical service, relief goods, food distribution and shelter construction—and long-term reconstruction support. An engineer company from the Japanese Self-Defense Forces has been deployed to the UN stabilization mission to assist with activities such as the clearing of rubble, the reopening of roads and small construction work.¹⁵⁹⁹

¹⁵⁹⁴ Flood Disaster in Afghanistan, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 6 August 2010. Date of Access: 18 January 2011. http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2010/8/0806_01.html.

¹⁵⁹⁵ Emergency Grant Aid to the People's Republic of China for the Mudslide Disaster in Gansu Province, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 14 August 2010. Date of Access: 18 January 2011. http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2010/8/0814_01.html

¹⁵⁹⁶ GSDF unit to end Pakistan flood relief, The Japan Times Online (Tokyo) 6 October 2010. Date of Access: 17 November 2010. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20101006a7.html>.

¹⁵⁹⁷ JICA Sends Additional Emergency Supplies as Pakistan Continues to Battle Nationwide Flooding, Japan International Cooperation Agency (Tokyo) 27 August 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010. http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2010/20100827_01.html.

¹⁵⁹⁸ The reconstruction of Haiti, The Japan Times Online (Tokyo) 28 January 2010. Date of Access: 17 November 2010. <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/ed20100128a1.html>.

¹⁵⁹⁹ Japan's Assistance to Haiti, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (Tokyo) August 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/latin/haiti/disaster2010/>.

Continued support for Haiti was also seen on 28 October 2010 when the Japan International Cooperation Agency sent emergency supplies—including water tanks, water purifiers, jerry cans and plastic sheeting—to help combat the island’s cholera outbreak.¹⁶⁰⁰

In late October 2010, Japan extended ¥20 million of aid to Vietnam after a series of typhoons hit the coastal areas of Central Vietnam.¹⁶⁰¹

Thus, Japan has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the recovery of Haiti and its commitment to improving international disaster response mechanisms through HFA-compliant initiatives, thereby supporting the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction through the HFA.

Analyst: James Marcus Bridger

Russia: 0

Russia has partially with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 24 September 2010, the Russian Government donated US\$3 million to the International Civil Defence Organisation to help equip fire-rescue divisions of the Kirghiz Ministry of Emergencies.¹⁶⁰²

On 10 December 2010, Russian Government donated US\$2 million to the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and US\$1 million to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).¹⁶⁰³

On 10 December 2010, the heads of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) member states adopted an action plan on the creation of a CSTO collective emergency response mechanism.¹⁶⁰⁴ In line with the action plan of the Russian Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and Disaster Relief (EMERCOM) proposed to create a joint register of search-and-rescue units of the CSTO states. EMERCOM also offered the Ministry’s facilities for the training of personnel from other countries.¹⁶⁰⁵

Thus, Russia has been awarded a score of 0 for its initiatives in the development of disaster response mechanisms, but its lack of support of Haiti in its recovery during the compliance cycle.

Analyst: Irina Grechukhina

¹⁶⁰⁰ Emergency Supplies Being Sent by JICA to Help Combat Cholera Outbreak in Haiti, Japan International Cooperation Agency 28 October 2010. Date of Access: 18 November 2010. http://www.jica.go.jp/english/news/field/2010/20101028_01.html.

¹⁶⁰¹ Emergency Assistance for Flood Disaster in Vietnam, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Tokyo) 22 October 2010. Date of Access: 18 January 2011. http://www.mofa.go.jp/announce/announce/2010/10/1022_01.html.

¹⁶⁰² Executive Order No. 1614-r of 24 September 2010, Government of Russia (Moscow) 24 September 2010. Date of Access: 18 January 2011. <http://government.ru/docs/12374/>.

¹⁶⁰³ Executive Order No. 2233-r of 10 December 2010, Government of Russia (Moscow) 10 December 2010. Date of Access: 18 January 2011. <http://government.ru/gov/results/13416/>.

¹⁶⁰⁴ Documents adopted at the Collective Security Council session, Office of the President of Russia (Moscow) 10 December 2010. Date of Access: 18 January 2011. http://news.kremlin.ru/ref_notes/810.

¹⁶⁰⁵ The collective emergency response mechanism will be developed as part of the CSTO, Russian Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and Disaster Relief (Moscow) 1 December 2010. Date of Access: 18 January 2011. <http://www.mchs.gov.ru/news/detail.php?ID=148091>.

United Kingdom: +1

The United Kingdom has fully complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 14 July 2010, the United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID) announced a “comprehensive review” of its humanitarian response procedures. The review will look into ways to improve DFID’s “coordination with [the] UN, humanitarian organizations, and the private sector to ensure that the UK is helping to make international efforts more efficient, effective and well-coordinated” as well as with “the Ministry of Defence and the Foreign and Commonwealth office to share resources where appropriate.”¹⁶⁰⁶

On 27 November 2010, the United Kingdom announced it would pay for 115 doctors, 920 nurses, 740 support staff, as well as emergency supplies to help fight the cholera epidemic that has emerged in Haiti in the wake of the January 2010 earthquake.¹⁶⁰⁷

Thus, the United Kingdom has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the recovery of Haiti and its commitment to improving international disaster response mechanisms through HFA-compliant initiatives, thereby supporting the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction through the HFA.

Analyst: Andrew Lynes

United States: +1

The United States has fully complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 19 November 2010 “the US Government, through the US Agency for International Development (USAID), strengthened the Government of Haiti’s ability to detect earthquake activity by funding five new seismometers.”¹⁶⁰⁸ The new seismometers will replace the initial equipment provided by the United States government immediately following the earthquake in January 2010. In addition to the new instruments, the US government is providing “technical training and logistical assistance to improve seismic surveillance.”¹⁶⁰⁹ The provision of the seismometers and the technological assistance to the government of Haiti falls in line with the principles of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA), which states that the way to improve disaster preparedness and response is to “strengthen policy, technical and institutional capacities

¹⁶⁰⁶ Lord Ashdown to Lead Review of Emergency Aid, United Kingdom Department for International Development (London) 14 July 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Press-releases/2010/Lord-Ashdown-to-lead-review-of-emergency-aid/>.

¹⁶⁰⁷ UK Pledges Aid to Fight Haiti Cholera Epidemic, BBC News UK Edition (London) 27 November 2010. Date of Access: 9 December 2010. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-11854178>.

¹⁶⁰⁸ U.S Government Funds Haiti’s First Seismic Surveillance Station, United States Agency for International Development (Part-Au-Prince/Washington) 19 November 2010. Date of Access: 31 December 2010. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2010/pr101119.html>.

¹⁶⁰⁹ U.S Government Funds Haiti’s First Seismic Surveillance Station, United States Agency for International Development (Part-Au-Prince/Washington) 19 November 2010. Date of Access: 31 December 2010. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2010/pr101119.html>.

in regional, national and local disaster management, including those related to technology, training, and human and material resources.”¹⁶¹⁰

On 25 August 2010 the first school built under the partnership between the US Government and the Digicel Haiti Foundation was opened. The Digicel Foundation is an organization “which supports education and community projects throughout Haiti.”¹⁶¹¹

The United States, through USAID and the Office of United States Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA), contributed over US\$131 million to Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives in 2010. Each of these initiatives “promotes at least one of the five priorities identified by the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA).”¹⁶¹² One such initiative is the United States’ support of the Volcano Disaster Assistance Program (VDAP), “an interagency agreement with the US Geological Survey (USGS) that enables USAID/OFDA to access and deploy the only international rapid-response volcano crisis team in the world.”¹⁶¹³ With the support of the United State government, VDAP was able to provide swift and timely support for volcanic disasters in Indonesia, Guatemala and Tanzania. This initiative is aligned with the second principle of the HFA which encourages the “exchange of information and coordination among early warning, disaster risk reduction, disaster response, development and other relevant agencies and institutions at all levels, with the aim of fostering a holistic approach towards disaster risk reduction.”¹⁶¹⁴

Thus, the United States has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the recovery of Haiti and its commitment to improving international disaster response mechanisms through HFA-compliant initiatives, thereby supporting the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction through the HFA.

Analyst: Ava-Dayna Sefa

European Union: +1

The European Union has fully complied with its commitments to assist with the recovery of Haiti, take steps to improve international disaster response mechanisms, and support the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction.

On 8 December 2010, the European Commission noted scope for improvement in its response to natural disasters. The Commission acknowledged “the need to respond to crises of rising frequency and magnitude, exacerbated by natural disasters” and proposed more “targeted efforts

¹⁶¹⁰ Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, United Nations ISDR (Geneva) July 2007. Date of Access: 31 December 2010.

www.preventionweb.net/files/1037_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf.

¹⁶¹¹ Digicel Foundation and U.S. Government Partner to Provide New Schools in Earthquake-Affected Communities in Haiti, United States Agency for International Development (Port-Au-Prince) 25 August 2010. Date of Access: 31 December 2010. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2010/pr100825.html>.

¹⁶¹² Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Programs, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 30 September 2010. Date of Access: 31 December 2010. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/publications/prep_mit/mods/pogram_updates/drr_fs01_09-30-2010.pdf.

¹⁶¹³ Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Programs, United States Agency for International Development (Washington) 30 September 2010. Date of Access: 31 December 2010. http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/publications/prep_mit/mods/pogram_updates/drr_fs01_09-30-2010.pdf.

¹⁶¹⁴ Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, United Nations ISDR (Geneva) July 2007. Date of Access: 31 December 2010. www.preventionweb.net/files/1037_hyogoframeworkforactionenglish.pdf.

to ensure the transition from relief to long-term development aid.”¹⁶¹⁵ In its Mid-Term Review of the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid Action Plan, the Commission stated that it seeks further implementation of “working with development actors on disaster risk reduction and on transition from emergency response to recovery, including early post-crisis needs assessment.”¹⁶¹⁶

On 15 November 2010, the European Commission’s Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (DG ECHO) released a factsheet on the Haitian cholera epidemic whereby it pledged to “mobilize the 2010 remaining humanitarian funds allocated for Haiti ...€5.8 million were allocated in new contracts and extensions of existing contracts to humanitarian NGOs in the affected areas.”¹⁶¹⁷ These funds will finance DG ECHO’s three-point plan of supporting an epidemiological surveillance system and health coordination, engaging in preventative strategies such as hygiene promotion, and focusing on curative strategies such as health staff training.¹⁶¹⁸

On 5 November 2010, an EU press release confirmed that the EU Monitoring and Information Centre had transmitted Haiti’s request for tents, tarpaulins, mosquito nets and water purification kits to the “31 countries that participate in the EU’s Civil Protection Mechanism,” and was standing by to “collect the assistance offers and coordinate their deployment as needed.”¹⁶¹⁹

On 26 October 2010, the European Commission proposed to “improve the disaster response of the European Union, both within and outside of its borders.”¹⁶²⁰ This proposal included the creation of a European Emergency Response Capacity, “based on Member States’ expertise and assets; and second, a European Emergency Response Centre” as the new “platform for more effective EU coordination whenever disasters strike. This centre ...[would] collect real-time information on disasters, monitor hazards, alert member states, and coordinate the EU’s disaster response actions.”¹⁶²¹

On 13 October 2010, the European Commission declared its intention to “integrate Disaster Risk Reduction in its worldwide humanitarian and development actions,” including “training,

¹⁶¹⁵ The Commission reviews EU’s humanitarian aid strategy, and acts to improve it, European Union (Brussels) 8 December 2010. Date of Access: 8 December 2010. <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/1681&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

¹⁶¹⁶ The Mid-Term Review of the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid Action Plan, European Union (Brussels) 8 December 2010. Date of Access: 8 December 2010. http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/Haiti_cholera_factsheet_151110_en.pdf.

¹⁶¹⁷ Factsheet Haiti Cholera Epidemics, European Commission Humanitarian Aid and European Civil Protection. 15 November 2010. Date of Access: 17 November 2010.

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/Haiti_cholera_factsheet_151110_en.pdf.

¹⁶¹⁸ Factsheet Haiti Cholera Epidemics, European Commission Humanitarian Aid and European Civil Protection. 15 November 2010. Date of Access: 17 November 2010.

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/files/aid/countries/Haiti_cholera_factsheet_151110_en.pdf.

¹⁶¹⁹ Haiti’s government activates MIC in reaction to Hurricane Tomas, European Union (Brussels) 5 November 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/1475&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

¹⁶²⁰ Commission proposes to improve European disaster response, European Union (Brussels) 26 October 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/1381&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

¹⁶²¹ Commission proposes to improve European disaster response, European Union (Brussels) 26 October 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010.

<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/1381&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

exercises, exchange and collaboration of experts and projects” and “an integrated approach to disaster management including prevention, preparedness and response.”¹⁶²²

Thus, the European Union has been awarded a score of +1 for its participation in the recovery of Haiti and its commitment to improving international disaster response mechanisms through HFA-compliant initiatives, thereby supporting the UN Global Platform for Risk Reduction through the HFA.

Analyst: Kelsey Komorowski

¹⁶²² The European Commission to integrate Disaster Risk Reduction in its worldwide humanitarian and development actions, European Union (Brussels) 13 October 2010. Date of Access: 15 November 2010. <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/1327&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.