

Draft

13 March 2017

World Landslide Forum IV
The 2017 Ljubljana Declaration on Landslide Risk Reduction
Contributing to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

1. The World Landslide Forum IV was convened and organized in Ljubljana, Slovenia, from 29 May to 2 June 2017 by the International Consortium on Landslides (ICL), the International Programme on Landslides (IPL), the University of Ljubljana and the Geological Survey of Slovenia. The event was co-organized by the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, the Ministry of Infrastructure, the National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Chamber of Engineers of the Republic of Slovenia. The Forum was sponsored by several other entities. Participants* including scientists, engineers, researchers, policy makers, public officials as well as representatives of other stakeholders came from xxx countries, from xxx entities of the United Nations system and from other organizations.
2. The participants appreciate the hospitality and welcome that was accorded to the Forum by the authorities and relevant institutions of Slovenia.
3. The participants addressed the challenges of landslide disaster risk. They examined how landslide knowledge and technology, and landslide investigation can be further enhanced and applied to contribute to the reduction of vulnerability and exposure and to building the resilience of persons, communities and countries to landslide disasters which, like other disasters caused by natural hazards, undermine efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
4. The participants note that landslides are a complex natural phenomenon of many types and varieties that can be triggered by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, heavy and recurrent rainfall, typhoons, hurricanes, wildfires, snowmelt, sometimes exacerbated by anthropogenic activities and developments such as construction of roads, waterworks and mining. They recall that submarine landslides are able to generate tsunamis and represent a major hazard to coastal areas.
5. The participants underline that landslides, occurring on land and at sea, continue to pose considerable risks to humankind, to human settlements and to livelihoods and economies in mountains, cities, coasts and islands. They underline further that people most exposed to, and affected by landslide disasters are disproportionately the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, including women and children.
6. The participants caution that climate change and variability are expected to increasingly affect the frequency and extent of heavy rainfall and wildfires at local and regional level with an enhanced potential for landslide occurrence. They recognize that combined effects of natural phenomena and human adverse activities, associated with a rise in the vulnerability and exposure of urban and rural settlements and agglomerations, are increasing landslide risk in the world.
7. The participants reiterate that understanding landslides, their associated risks and the vulnerability of societies, requires an integrated and multi-disciplinary approach including contributions from natural, social and engineering sciences as well as local and traditional knowledge.
8. The participants value the mobilization generated and the significant impact of activities developed and implemented throughout the processes of previous World Landslide Forums, namely WLF 1 held in Tokyo in November 2008, WLF 2 held in Rome in October 2011, and WLF 3 held in Beijing in June 2014.
9. The participants recognize and welcome, in particular, the *ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnerships 2015-2025 for Global Promotion of Understanding and Reducing Landslide Disaster Risk* which was adopted as a voluntary commitment to the United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, held in Sendai, Japan, 14-18

March 2015. They affirm that this Partnership is a supporting tool for the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. They greet and commend the numerous Partners who adhered to this Partnerships. They recognize, with great satisfaction, the progress made by the Partnerships during the first biennium of its life. They commit to pursue and support its further implementation, including through building on the 2012 ICL Strategic Plan 2012-2021.

10. The participants recognize the concrete actions and co-operative activities carried out by the ICL family including through ICL Members, the IPL and the IPL Projects, the ICL Supporting Organizations, the ICL Regional and Thematic Networks, the ICL World Centres of Excellence on Landslide Risk Reduction, the ICL UNITWIN Cooperation Programme in the framework of the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, the Landslide School Network, the Landslide Journal and other ICL publications. They value the most recent output which is illustrated by the ISDR-ICL Landslide Interactive Teaching Tools.
11. The participants reiterate their call upon related governmental, non-governmental and international programmes, and initiatives from natural, engineering, human, social and economical sciences, public and private, to continue promoting science and technology and their applications for landslide disaster risk mitigation including by supporting and joining the ISDR-ICL Sendai Partnerships.
12. The participants look forward to the initiation and furthering of the process leading to the organization of the Fifth World Landslide Forum (WLF 5) in 2020.
13. The participants are of the view that, in the perspective of, and during the WLF 5, an opportunity must be found to mobilize in the medium and long term a global alliance which will accelerate and incentivize action for landslide risk reduction. They therefore urge for putting in place a mechanism to that effect and call for a commitment, that is, the Kyoto 2020 Commitment of the World Landslide Community, to be finalized during the preparatory activities for WLF 5 and adopted during WLF 5 in order to serve this purpose.
14. The participants express gratitude to Governmental authorities and specialized organizations and entities worldwide, and in particular authorities and organizations from Japan, for the valuable support which they provide to ICL-IPL. They express sincere appreciation to the leadership and management of ICL for their dedication to the functioning of the Consortium and to the continuation of its initiatives and activities.
15. The participants submit the 2017 Ljubljana Declaration on Landslide Risk Reduction to UNISDR for endorsement as a further commitment on the part of the global landslide community to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

Adopted in Ljubljana, on... June 2017

* List in Annex

ANNEX to the 2017 Ljubljana Declaration on Landslide Risk Reduction

*List of participating organizations