**16th ANNUAL SOUTH EAST ASIA**

**RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT LEADERSHIP MEETING**

*24-25 October 2019*

*Manila, The Philippines*

**Background Note**

**Session 3: 1BC and the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience**

**One Billion Coalition for Resilience (1BC)**

The One Billion Coalition for Resilience (1BC) is an unprecedented commitment from individuals, communities, organizations, business and governments to mobilize the potential of our collective networks, our ability to work at scale, and to coordinate our shared resources, working toward a world where people are safer, healthier and can thrive, even in the face of adversity.

Working together in global, regional, national and local coalitions, we can support the ability of individuals, communities, organizations and countries to anticipate, prepare for and reduce the impact of disasters, crises and underlying vulnerabilities. The effect of this will ensure people are better able to cope with and recover from the effects of shocks and stresses, minimizing the impact on their long-term well-being.

The 1BC invites every entity to be agents of change to create a more resilient world. It is an opportunity to build on, strengthen and expand existing networks and initiatives for community resilience. Partners forming regional, local and national coalition will shape the initiative to suit their local circumstances, by implementing practical initiatives. Under the 1BC they will be connected to a global coalition driving greater access to tool, and expertise at the local level, **reaching a total of 1 billion people worldwide by 2025**.

The 1BC ensures communities can make resilience building choices that fit local needs and can draw on local resources. It is to help communities and households build resilience across a wide range of areas, including: first aid and preparedness training, strengthening local institutions and early warning systems, pandemic preparedness and improving access to health and water and sanitation. The aim to improve and save lives.

**How Does The 1BC Work?**

Ownership of the initiative lies with the people and communities taking action on their own behalf, and with partners and governments, businesses and research institutions committed to building community resilience. No single organization owns the 1BC. With every new member, the 1BC will become more effective, drawing from a larger pool of expertise, ideas and participants all working towards a common goal of improved resilience.

1BC coalitions and individuals taking action will be supported by tools to connect coalition members, kick-start initiatives and break down obstacles to building resilience.

These tools include:

* **Digital ecosystem public engagement** connecting individuals, organizations, experts and governments to each other and 1BC online tools that help them to create opportunities to collaborate and act on-the-ground to assess risk and design solutions to build resilience.
* **Business continuity platform** provides a suite of tools and services for small and medium sized enterprises to accelerate recovery time, forge more resilient supply chains, promote stronger linkages to government and communities and provide greater coverage of potential losses through insurance.
* **Civil society organizations (CSO)** partnership platform facilitates connection and information sharing between 1BC partners within communities by increasing visibility, transparency, accountability and capacity, leading to more effective partnerships at the local level, providing important insight into the local networks and community structures that can support building resilience.
* **Advocacy platform** enhances the capacity of communities and partners to speak out as one, increasing their influence on decision makers and opinion leaders to create or change government policies, legislation or practice that promote resilience.
* **Operations platform** helps to convert all the connections and learning among coalition members to map local risks, design local solutions and implement community initiatives to address the highest priority risks in their communities.

**ASEAN Coalition for Resilience**

A commitment by ASEAN and IFRC to support 40 million people in the ASEAN region become more resilient in the face of shocks and adversity by 2025.

The idea was conceived during a seminar, dubbed ‘Resilient South East Asia’, attended by over 200 stakeholders from ASEAN, the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement, CSOs and the private sector in Singapore. The seminar was followed by an ASEAN Coalition for Resilience Visioning Workshop, which was hosted by the Singapore Red Cross and facilitated by IFRC during April 2018.

During the workshop, ASEAN National Societies were invited to envision how their existing flagship resilience programmes could be taken to scale under the umbrella of the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience over the next years, and which partners and resources would be required to achieve this. The aim would be to collectively mobilize or reach 100 million people across the ASEAN region by 2025.

Singapore Red Cross presented its thinking around the Singapore Coalition for Resilience, which showed how the National Society had approached the challenge, with the aim of mobilizing 10 million people by 2025.

The Indonesia Red Cross Society – Palang Merah Indonesia (PMI) – as well as Lao Red Cross, Malaysian Red Crescent Society, Myanmar Red Cross Society and the Philippine Red Cross also provided examples of national flagship resilience building programmes that could be expanded through partnerships. Through these expanded programmes, and building on existing capacities, National Societies of ASEAN could reach a combined target of 40 million individuals as part of the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience.

One example discussed in Singapore is to look into five entry points to achieve greater resilience, for example in first aid:

1. NS, Branches, staff and volunteers;

2. Schools (students, teachers, families, neighborhood)

3. Government authorities (Business Continuity Plan)

4. Private sector (BCP)

5. Civil Society

**How can a National Society act?**

At regional, national or local levels each entity can:

1. Convene partners.
2. Focus on priority threats and set a collective target.
3. Identify the combination of solutions (building on existing programmes) needed to meet the target.
4. Mobilize and advocate around the solutions.
5. Record contributions.

**Taking stock**

On Friday 18 October 2019, Singapore Red Cross organized the “Better Together” Workshop. The workshop revisited commitments made in 2018 relating to the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience and deliberated on practical steps to walk the talk. The National Societies of Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam participated as well as IFRC and ICRC.

**Looking ahead**

During the “Better Together” Workshop in Singapore, it was agreed that Singapore Red Cross would present a further proposal to the ASEAN Leaders Meeting in Manila on operationalizing the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience.

Meantime, IFRC is engaging with the Disaster Management & Humanitarian Assistance (DHAM) Division of ASEAN Secretariat (ASEC) on a possible project titled “Advancing Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) in ASEAN”. The project will be funded by Japan ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) for CBDRM activities in four countries (Cambodia, Lao, Myanmar and Vietnam) over two years, i.e. 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2012. Under this project, ASEAN National Societies and IFRC are expected work closely with the ASEAN Secretariat, the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management (ACDM) Working Group on Prevention and Mitigation (P&M), National Disaster Management Organizations (NMDOs) of the four target countries, and Global Environment Strategies (IGES). The ACDM Working Group on Prevention and Mitigation is co-chaired by Laos and Thailand with members being Brunei, Cambodia, Malaysia, Philippines and Viet Nam. If this project materializes, it will be among the first practical engagements of the ASEAN Coalition for Resilience.