Remarks by Mr. Weimin Liu
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Dear Mr. Marco, panelist and colleagues,

I'm very glad to meet you via video link.

The Chinese government has always attached great importance to emergency management and international cooperation in this area. Since its establishment in 2018, the Ministry of Emergency Management has, on the one hand, fully fulfilled the important responsibility in preventing and eliminating major safety risks and responding to various disasters and accidents, while on the other hand, has actively participated in and promoted international cooperation. Our Ministry held the Belt and Road Ministerial Forum for International Cooperation in Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management online last November which was participated by 28 countries, UN agencies, international and regional organizations. The participants, focusing on the theme of “Strengthen Disaster Prevention and Improve Emergency Management Capacity” had in-depth exchange of views and adopted the Beijing Declaration on the Belt and Road International Cooperation in Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management.
The Chinese side would like to express our sincere gratitude to the UNDRR for its consistent support in the process. The UNDRR is the coordinating agency for cooperation in disaster risk reduction within the UN system and a major platform for the implementation of international disaster risk reduction plans and initiatives. As an important partner of China in emergency management international cooperation, the UNDRR has signed a partnership agreement (2021-2024) with China prior to the Ministerial Forum, and both sides agreed to develop our cooperation within the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management, so as to improve the global and regional capacity of disaster risk reduction and emergency management.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Ministerial Forum had to be held online, and the number of participants was also subject to limitations. Today's briefing, co-organized by the Ministry of Emergency Management of China and the UNDRR, aims to update the international community on the outcomes of the Ministerial Forum and progress on the Framework, and soliciting views on the long-term development of the Framework. Panelists from government agencies, international organizations and academia are invited to make comments. Discussion is welcome during the Q&A Session.

Thank you very much!
In recent years, due to climate change and other factors, the total number of disasters has risen sharply globally, with extreme weather events and major disasters occurring more frequently. The disaster risks faced by the Belt and Road countries are particularly serious. At the same time, disasters are compounded by the spread of COVID-19 Pandemic around the world. The economic and social development of all countries and the safety of people's lives and property are under serious threat. Therefore, the urgency and necessity to address common challenges by working together are increasing. The disaster caused by the volcanic eruption in Tonga has aroused great concern of the international community. International assistance is underway, and China will also provide emergency assistance. As one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world, China has always attached great importance to disaster risk reduction and emergency management. While modernizing emergency management system and capacity through continuous reform, China has been actively engaged in exchanges and cooperation with B&R countries, regional and international organizations and is committed to jointly enhancing capacity for disaster risk reduction and emergency management.

At present, the Belt and Road Initiative put forward by Chinese President Xi Jinping, is moving forward in the direction of high-quality development. Disaster risk reduction and
emergency management is not only a key area of cooperation, but also has an important mission of creating a safe and stable environment for advancing the Belt and Road Initiative.

It is the common aspiration of the international community, including the Belt and Road countries to prevent and address major disaster risks. At the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in April 2019, leaders from 39 countries reached a consensus on “promoting cooperation in the field of disaster mitigation, reduction and management”.

In order to implement the above mentioned consensus, China has made tremendous efforts in initiating and co-building the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management. We received positive response and strong support from the international community, including the Belt and Road countries. This fully shows that disaster risk reduction requires international cooperation among all parties, and disaster prevention and mitigation in a cooperative way benefits all.

First, build consensus on policy concepts. We have actively advocated for the development philosophy by putting people and life first, and promoted synergy between relevant cooperation mechanisms and the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
Second, build platforms for practical cooperation. We have established cooperative relations with more than 30 international organizations and 50 countries, actively participated in multilateral meetings such as the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR), strengthened multilateral and bilateral cooperation through overall coordination and top-level design, which has deepened practical regional disaster management cooperation. We have established the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Management plus China (AMMDM plus China) mechanism, deepened the cooperation within the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organization, and made steady progress in cooperation within the frameworks of APEC and BRICS.

Third, strengthen international rescue cooperation. We have contributed China’s strength to jointly responding to disasters by sending disaster relief materials and rescue teams to help disaster affected countries and regions with their response and recovery. In 2019, China sent a rescue team to Mozambique to carry out an international rescue operation and the Chinese team cooperated well with relevant United Nation agencies on the ground.

Fourth, carry out international technical cooperation in disaster reduction. We used earth electromagnetic monitoring
experimental satellites, and other advanced equipments, to provide natural disaster risk monitoring and space remote sensing services for relevant countries and regions. The“Gaofen-1” high-definition earth observation satellite and Zhangheng-1 Electromagnetic satellite were both utilized to monitor the volcanic eruption of Tonga, and we shared the satellite data and images accordingly.

On 3 November 2021, China hosted the Belt and Road Ministerial Forum for International Cooperation in Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management via video link, officially launching the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management, which offers a new platform for global cooperation on disaster governance. Chinese State Councilor Wang Yong attended the Forum and delivered a keynote speech, saying that China will continue to deepen exchanges and cooperation with the countries along the Belt and Road and other international organizations, and jointly enhance the capacity for disaster risk reduction and emergency management, so as to make the Belt and Road as the road of development and peace.

State Councilor Wang Yong put forward four specific suggestions: First, continuously improve the multilateral and bilateral cooperation mechanism. Second, work together to consolidate the foundation for disaster risk reduction. Third, work
together to deal with major disasters and accidents. Fourth, jointly promote emergency scientific and technological innovation.

Leaders of emergency management authorities of 20 countries in Asia, Europe, Africa and South America and 8 UN agencies, international and regional organizations participated in the Forum for in-depth exchanges.

Participants reached a series of common understandings, including further strengthening exchanges and cooperation, integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change as well as exploring an international cooperation mechanism for catastrophe response, which has generated positive repercussions internationally. The Forum adopted the Beijing Declaration on Belt and Road International Cooperation in Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management and officially launched the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for DRR and Emergency Management, advocating that all parties should adhere to people-centered development philosophy and the principle of protecting people’s lives as top priority, integrate development and safety, promote sustainable development of environment, economy and society, enhance people’s sense of fulfillment, happiness and security of all countries, focus on safeguarding the rights of women, children, the elderly, the disabled and other groups; calling on all parties to strengthen cooperation in strategy and policy, disaster prevention and
mitigation, preparedness, emergency response, recovery and reconstruction and provide funding through domestic and international resources.

China will facilitate the implementation of Beijing Declaration through continuous deepening of cooperation among Belt and Road countries in disaster risk reduction and emergency management. Three areas namely disaster risk reduction, workplace safety and emergency response will be our focus. Concrete cooperation may include the following aspects:

For Disaster Risk Reduction

International disaster reduction strategy and policy research and formulation, disaster risk prevention capacity building, disaster monitoring and early warning system, key DRR technology research and development, space technology application in DRR.

For Workplace Safety

Strategic planning and policy research on workplace safety, capacity building in law enforcement, laws regulations and technical standards in key industries, capacity building in safety risk control, science and technology support, corporate workplace safety management systems.

For Emergency Response

Emergency rescue policies and cooperation mechanisms for major disasters, urban search and rescue operation and capacity
building of teams, building emergency rescue training centers alliance and network of international trainers, non-governmental organizations’ participation in disaster relief, research and development of emergency rescue supplies, development of transnational rescue supplies warehouse.

We will also promote synergy between the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030), and strengthen collaboration with UN agencies and relevant international and regional organizations. We will work to establish more regional and subregional cooperation mechanism, with Asia, Africa and Latin America, facilitate more bilateral, trilateral and multileteral coopertaion. China will, in accordance with the needs of cooperation, promote the establishment of running organizations of the Forum, explore a liaison mechanism, strengthen practical cooperation initiatives and host the next Ministerial Forum in due course. All relevant countries and international organizations are also highly welcome to host the next Ministerial Forum jointly with China.

Today's world is experiencing profound changes unseen in more than a century. Win-win cooperation and common development are the general trend of the world and the aspiration
of the people.

We hope all countries and international organizations could work together with China, enhance international cooperation in disaster risk reduction and emergency management, so as to make positive contributions that will benefit the people of the Belt and Road countries, and promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind!

You are highly welcomed to exchange ideas and insight, discuss potential initiatives, build further consensus, so as to clear the way forward for better cooperation.

Thank you!
Dear colleagues, today's briefing is coming to the end. With an aspiration to promote cooperation and common development, we have gathered online and had in-depth discussions on international cooperation in disaster management, which has facilitated the development of the Belt and Road International Cooperation Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Emergency Management. This Framework is mutually beneficial in nature. We will adhere to the principle of "consultation and cooperation for shared benefits" and work together to develop and capitalize on the Framework and ensure people of all countries benefit. This Framework is a platform for mutual learning. As equal participants, all parties can contribute wisdom, offer ideas and reinforce each other in disaster risk reduction and emergency management. This Framework is open and inclusive. We welcome the active participation of other countries to expand areas of cooperation.

Dear Colleagues, at the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, President Xi Jinping put forward the Global Development Initiative and called on the international community to join hands to meet challenges. Strengthening international cooperation in disaster risk reduction and emergency management is in line with the general trend of global development. It will serve as a new platform for international cooperation in disaster risk reduction, workplace safety and
emergency response and a new measure to implement the Global Development Initiative, which will definitely contribute to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind and global development.

At the end of this briefing, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your wonderful comments and discussions, particularly to UNDRR for its elaborate arrangements and strong support in the preparation of this briefing.

Thank you once again, looking forward to seeing you again! Happy the year of tiger.