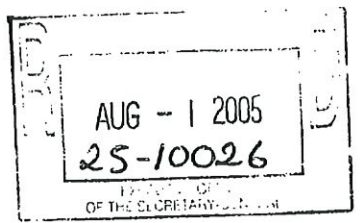


UN1799

~~sg~~/fyi. Report was approved
on your behalf today
P. 11/8

LOCHA

Note to Mr. Malloch Brown



**DRAFT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT ON
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
IN THE FIELD OF NATURAL DISASTERS,
FROM RELIEF TO DEVELOPMENT**

1. For your review and approval, please find attached the draft report of the Secretary-General on "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development." The report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 59/212 of 20 December 2004.
2. The report highlights the key challenges faced by the international community in strengthening the capacity of disaster-prone countries in disaster preparedness, response, post-disaster recovery, and disaster risk reduction.
3. I would like to draw your attention in particular to the recommendations included in the last chapter of the report.

for *Jan Egeland*
Jan Egeland
1 August 2005

Notes
~~WA~~
12/8



did waive normal customs and immigration procedures to facilitate the arrival of international USAR teams in the recent earthquakes in their countries. Other earthquake-prone countries must take action on this matter.

Safety and security of international USAR staff

75. According to General Assembly Resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 and the INSARAG Guidelines, it is the responsibility of member states to ensure the safety and security of international USAR staff working in the country. In the high stress and emotional situation following an earthquake, member states should pay particular attention to this matter. They should also include this issue in their national disaster response plan.

On-site coordination

76. Smooth on-site coordination in the event of a major disaster involving both national and international responders is a major challenge. United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) teams are routinely deployed to assist the local and national authorities in this respect. The earthquake in Bam, Iran proved to be one of the better examples of on-site coordination as a result of close cooperation between the Government of Iran, the Iranian Red Crescent Society and the UNDAC team. It is recommended that Governments of disaster-prone countries include the utilisation of the UNDAC team in their national response plans and disaster response exercises.

V. Recommendations

77. Relevant United Nations organizations and donor governments should strengthen the capacity of disaster-prone countries in disaster mitigation, preparedness,

response and post-disaster recovery within a disaster risk-reduction framework, by supporting relevant initiatives in this field.

78. Regional organisations in disaster-prone regions should play a greater role in disaster risk reduction and management by devising regional-level programmes and by supporting the efforts undertaken by the countries of the region.

79. Relevant United Nations organizations and donor governments should enhance the level of preparedness of disaster-prone countries, particularly at the local level, by significantly increasing funding for preparedness activities.

80. All providers of relief assistance should take concrete steps to maximize the participation of beneficiaries in the planning and implementation of relief programmes.

81. All providers of relief assistance should devise concrete mechanisms to enhance the level of accountability to beneficiaries to ensure that the provision of assistance is based on the needs of the affected populations.

82. The United Nations should strengthen civil-military coordination mechanisms at both the headquarters and the field levels. The United Nations should continue to develop and implement the United Nations Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination Concept to further consolidate the civil-military coordination system, including the development of national stand-by teams with Member States.

83. Relevant United Nations organizations and Member States should enhance the global capacity for sustainable post-disaster recovery in areas such as: coordination with traditional and non-traditional partners; identification and dissemination of lessons learned; development of common tools and mechanisms for recovery needs assessment, strategy development and programming; and incorporation of risk reduction into all recovery processes. International financial institutions are encouraged to fully participate in these efforts so as to increase the overall effect of sustainable recovery practices.

84. Member States should implement the priorities set out in the “Hyogo Framework for Action” in support of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and, in particular, incorporate practical disaster reduction steps into sustainable development and poverty reduction strategies, as well as in disaster preparedness and response.