

CHAIRPERSON SUMMARY

It is indeed a pleasure for Kuala Lumpur to successfully host this 12th Asian Crisis Management Conference, Kuala Lumpur 2014 today co-organized by the Malaysia Civil Defence Department and Kuala Lumpur City Hall.

I wish to thank the fellow delegates from the member cities Bangkok, Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Seoul, Singapore, Taipei and Tokyo. It is actually a good session through this conference where we are able share experience and knowledge concerning crisis management which accumulated among participating cities. This annual occasion enable the building of a proactive solution between the Network for Crisis Management and its member cities, which is run within a framework of Asian Network for Major Cities 21 (ANMC21).

Honourable foreign delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

Formally, resilience is the capability of a system to maintain its function and structure in the face of internal and external changes and to degrade gracefully when it must. Resilience occurs when the system continues to operate despite failures in some of its parts. A significant part of modern crisis and disaster management research is based on a normative research tradition aiming at anticipating future crisis and developing crisis management plans that fit the scenarios. In recognition of the limitations of this approach and the organizations' inability to foresee all potential crisis in a world of constant change, the concept of resilience has gained considerable ground in crisis studies. Nevertheless, resilience is often taken for granted as a distinct characteristic of the organizational system which can be activated and used whenever necessary, with little reflection on how it got there in the first place.

Therefore the theme **“Essential Key of Resilience in Devastating Crisis and Disaster”** has been chosen for this year’s conference which efforts should be made in order to ensure that the cities are capable of handling in such devastating incidents.

Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

The overall outcome of the conference this year may identify and determine the key factors that are essential for managing disasters and crisis successfully and map them against the disaster management cycle. Every member city has shown their full commitment to participate and contribute their knowledge and experience in disasters attack such as flood, and typhoon that caused by the climate change, human-made disaster such as terrorist attack and other crisis such as nuclear explosion, chemical leakage and infectious diseases. The main idea is that the current plan and strategies need to be enhanced in order to develop a resilience nation for the future. As a conclusion, the participating cities had brought the concept of community-based program to reduce the impact of disaster and crisis into the papers. The need to build a response system integrating front-end responders at community level is very essential especially when the professional responders may take a certain amount of time to arrive at incident sites. Comprehensive drills and public training, safety maps and evacuation plans, response strategies and continuous support from various agencies and organization being raised as the key factor to ensure a city can endure any impact of disaster and crisis.

The products of this network are offered as a strong point for dialogue and active consideration throughout the crisis management community. The thoughts and ideas presented in this conference do not encompass all of the nuances and situations we will meet in the future. Rather, they offer a foundation for developing a shared understanding of potential future challenges and how, working together, we may address these challenges. Hence, the cooperation between member cities is vital, and we clearly acknowledge that we should further promote our regional cooperation on crisis and disaster management. With that, I thank you