



## LIMA DECLARATION

### *Increasing resilience of infrastructure vis-à-vis natural and man-made disasters*

The World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), representing the engineering organizations of more than 90 countries and of 10 international engineering federations, met in Lima – Peru and agreed to issue this Declaration.

#### **Considering that:**

1. As a normal process of the earth evolution, strong natural events hit the earth surface for billions of years.
2. The ongoing climate change increases the destructive power of atmospheric phenomena, both by changing the prevalent weather conditions and by weakening the protection of populations.
3. There are human activities, like unplanned growth of cities, invasion of dangerous zones, weak and exposed housing, hospitals, and schools structures as well as infrastructures, that increase vulnerability and create conditions favoring catastrophic events.
4. Since the start of the 20th century, more than eight million deaths and seven trillion US dollars economic damage are the result of natural disasters.
5. Although the occurrence of strong and potentially harmful natural phenomena can neither be stopped nor managed, the correct application of policies, strategies and actions can successfully reduce vulnerability and high risks.
6. It is an essential function of professional engineers to contribute to create safer, sustainable, and prosperous societies.

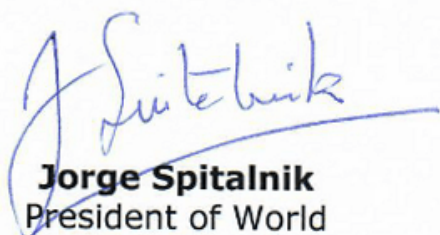
#### **Declare:**

1. Disaster risk reduction is a multi-disciplinary effort that goes beyond the engineering domain, requiring political intervention for assuring economic resources and establishing adequate priorities.
2. There is a strong commitment of engineering to actively participate in processes leading to avoid loss of life and property, and to reduce human suffering due to the damaging effects of natural and man-made hazards.

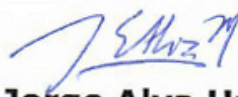
3. To increase the resilience of infrastructure vis-a-vis natural and man-made disasters, local scientific and engineering capacities must be strengthened in areas like building techniques, structural design, geology, hydrology, meteorology, fluid mechanics, materials science, and economics.

4. Engineering ought to continue its progress towards implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures upon the effects of natural and man-made disasters, bearing in mind humanity's quality of life improvement.

Signed in Lima, on December the 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016.



**Jorge Spitalnik**  
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Organizations



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