



**WORLD FEDERATION OF ENGINEERING ORGANIZATIONS  
STANDING TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL FACE-TO-FACE MEETING**

**When:** November, 18 (Monday), 2019, 14:00 – 18:00

**Place:** Engineers Australia, Melbourne, Australia

**Agenda**

1. Welcome and opening of session  
Dr. José Macharé, on behalf of Dr. Jorge Alva Committee Chair  
Dr. Vilas Mujumdar, vice chair address
2. Introduction of the members
3. Annual 2019 Report of the Committee on Disaster Risk Management  
Comments from members and observers
4. Break and networking
5. Proposal on CDRM Plan to 2020
6. Specific sub-committees plans 2020 (review Strategic Plan)
7. Committee membership
8. Concluding remarks & group photo

Recorder: Dr. Lizett López

**Attendance list**

<b>CDRM members</b>		
Vilas Mujumdar	National member	USA
Ashok Basa	National member	India
Kenichi Tsukahara	National member	Japan
Ahmad Bahman	National member	Kuwait
José Macharé	CDRM member	Peru
Lizett López	CDRM Deputy secretariat	Peru
<b>Observers</b>		
Navinchandra Vasoya	Institution of Engineers (India), IEI	India
Navaya	Institution of Engineers (India), IEI	India
Narendra Singh	Institution of Engineers (India), IEI	India
Khin Maung Tint	Myanmar Engineering Council	Myanmar
Aung Myint	Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies, FED. MES	Myanmar
Yin Yin Swe	Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies, FED. MES	Myanmar
Zora Vidovencová	Czech Association of Scientific and Technical Societies	Czech Republic
Ignacio Gonzales	Spain Society of Engineering, IIE	Spain
Barry Grear	Engineers Australia	Australia
Hasan Ashkanani	Kuwait Society of Engineers, KSE	Kuwait
Jaber Ashkanani	Kuwait Society of Engineers, KSE	Kuwait
Majed Almutairi	Kuwait Society of Engineers, KSE	Kuwait
Carlos Herrera	Peruvian Engineers Association, CIP	Peru
HE Jing	China Academy of Space Technology, CAST	China



## 1. Welcome and opening of session

Dr. José Macharé provided welcome greetings and presented the meeting agenda. There were no objections, and the agenda was approved.

Dr. Vilas Mujumdar, vice chair, WFEO-CDRM and WFEO National member representative (USA), mentioned that in addition to reporting on what had been developed this year, the committee's strategic plan would be discussed.

## 2. Introductions of members and observers

Each participant briefly introduced him/herself by name and affiliation.

## 3. Annual Report on Activities, 2019

For the second year of activities, the CDRM's Peru headquarters proposed to carry out the following activities:

ACTIVITIES	STATUS
Organize 13th International event on Risk Reduction in Lifelines Systems	Finished
Design a platform for online courses in DRM	Finished
Encourage WFEO national members to establish their national DRM committees	In process
Channeling funds from national and international institutions to support committee's activities	Finished
Committee virtual meeting	Finished
Prepare the annual newsletter of the activities of the committee	Pending

Dr. Macharé reported on the 13<sup>th</sup> Symposium organized in October, in Peru. The focus was on commenting on the theme of the event "Risk reduction in lifelines systems" and on the speakers who were identified and convened to share their knowledge and experiences.

Peruvian members of the committee promoted the creation of a committee website with more information and content on disaster risk. <http://courses.cip.org.pe/>. This way, those interested in the subject could consult it, which implies keeping the page updated. Coordination is being made with the WFEO in Paris, so that the information generated in this new website passed to the CDRM section of the Federation.

A platform, based on the Moodle system, has been created to offer free online courses in different topics of DRM. <http://grdcursos.cip.org.pe/>. A pilot course on the theme "Development of a Seismic Hazard Project" is going to start on December 22. The pilot test will allow us to identify the public interested in doing an online course on topics related to DRM. Courses will be offered in English and Spanish, and the certificate of participation would cost 50 dollars.

In order for the CDRM to become a platform to support on DRM, it was thought to encourage some WFEO national members to consider implementing their national DRM committees. CDRM secretariat sent letters making the proposal and got little response. For its part, Peru, through CIP, will have its national committee, which will convene engineers from different specialties and different regions of the country.



CIP was the only sponsor to this year's activities. The fund granted for the development of the activities of the CDRM contributed to carry out the symposium, cover expenses of the secretariat, as well as trips to Melbourne to participate in the WFEO meeting and WEC2019.

### ***General comments from members and observers***

Dr. Vilas Mujumdar emphasized that the CDRM is a policy committee and that the WFEO's activities are focused on engineering's contribution to the SDGs. What are we as CDRM doing about it? Our focus is to benefit the society.

Dr. José Macharé asked the attendants of the meeting how engineering could contribute to the achievement of SDG 11: Sustainable cities and communities? How to get to the government level? Decision-makers?

For his part, Dr Vilas asked: CDRM wants to be a platform for sharing knowledge or develop a content in DRM to share. Members agreed that the committee should develop contents. He proposed identifying specific topics to achieve short objectives; an option is to steer the committee's activities to elaborate technical guidelines, to customize the concept of resilience, and how to build resilience in different country settings.

What should we do when a big disaster happens? There are different cultures of resilience. CDRM should identify what the resilience framework is in India, Spain, Japan, and Czech Republic among others. It is certainly different. How should we develop a technical, sustainable and economic a culture of resilience? Directing the content of the guidelines to decision-makers. We can do National or local guidelines, international guidelines.

Members agreed to establish a working group to work in this proposal: this team should collect background national or local guides of the countries. Eng. Ahmad Bahman suggested contacting a member of UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) to meet with them and have their support.

### **4. Proposal for 2020**

For the year 2020, the chair of the committee has proposed:

- Continue online courses on DRM
- Expert advisory group
- Scientific and technical cooperation agreements

### ***General comments from members and observers***

It was mentioned that engineers need to be trained in Resilience and sustainability courses, with a multidisciplinary vision of it.

Members comment about what mean resilience? There are different definitions of resilience, so the CDRM could customize country-to-country to elaborate a Framework for resilience. It should be noted that the framework of resilience crosses all different disasters, so it is important to give it an appropriate approach.

Members highlighted that there is a need for the committee to develop content; it was proposed to draw up guidelines to support public policies.

### **5. Review Strategic Plan**

The members present at the meeting agreed that a small working group should be set up to review and improve the Strategic Plan. This group should read the plan carefully and focus on setting short and specific goals related to the Sustainable Development Goals-SDG.



Dr José Macharé is going to send the word version of the plan to the group members, who must send their contributions within one month. The group would be made up of:

- Ahmad Bahman from Kuwait
- Kenichi Tsukahara from Japan
- Ashok Basa from India
- Jing Peng from China
- Vilas Mujumdar from USA

## 6. Membership

Dr. Macharé presented the present-day composition of the CDRM and its organization in three sub-committees, inherited from the previous management: Earthquakes and tsunamis, water and climate, and capacity building. He also mentioned that the committee members are concentrated in two countries: Japan and Peru. Dr. López, Deputy Secretariat reported that often she has to deal with the non-response of number of those members, when soliciting opinions or input on various committee issues.

Dr. Vilas suggested considering only one official voting member from each country. The members present at the meeting agreed to restructure the composition of committee members. The Secretariat will send a proposal for approval.

In the case of China, it was suggested that Eng. Jing Peng could propose a representative for that country. Eng. Jing has assumed the leadership of another WFEO committee, so it would be difficult for her to pay attention to the activities of the CDRM.

## 7. Closing remarks

Dr. José Macharé expressed his appreciation for the participants who had valuable discussions and requested for continuous contributions to the committee activities.

