

CMAAO Kathmandu Declaration on Disaster Preparedness, Response, and Management

Preamble

We, the Presidents, Office Bearers, and delegates of our respective National Medical Associations at the Confederation of Medical Associations in Asia and Oceania (CMAAO), gathered in Kathmandu, Nepal, acknowledge the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters that threaten health, lives and livelihoods across our region. Recognizing the urgent need for comprehensive preparedness, coordinated response, effective management, post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation, thus we affirm our commitment to building resilient healthcare systems, protecting frontline workers and ensuring continuity of health services during emergencies.

Declaration

1. Enhancing Understanding of Disaster Risks

We commit to advancing research, knowledge-sharing and early warning mechanisms that help mitigate the health impacts of disasters.

2. Strengthening Governance and Leadership

We pledge to integrate disaster preparedness into health policies, national strategies, and medical curricula, ensuring leadership, implementation and accountability at all levels.

3. Investing in Resilient and Safe Health Infrastructure

We call for increased and continuous investment in disaster-resilient medical facilities, emergency logistics, and sustainable technologies to ensure uninterrupted health services during crises.

4. Protecting and Training the Healthcare Workforce

We highlight the importance of capacity building of healthcare professionals on disaster-response, safety measures and psychosocial support to maintain their well-being.

5. Supporting the Critical Role of Primary Care and Public Health

We support the critical role played by primary care and public health services at all levels of disaster preparedness, response and management.

6. Rapid Response and Emergency Coordination

We emphasize the need for well-structured medical response teams, efficient supply chains, and coordination to provide timely and effective action.

7. Strengthening Community Engagement

We advocate for inclusive disaster education and preparedness programs that engage the community including vulnerable and marginalized groups in decision-making.

8. Building Resilience in Recovery

We pledge to prioritize healthcare reconstruction in post-disaster recovery efforts thus leading to stronger and resilient health systems.

9. Harnessing Digital Health and Innovation

We commit to utilizing digital and innovative technologies for preparedness planning, real-time response, and continuity of care.

10. Promoting Mental Health Support

We acknowledge the burden of disasters on mental health and commit to immediate and long term support into disaster health responses.

11. Encouraging Cross-Sectoral Collaboration

We call for stronger collaboration between health, education, infrastructure, agriculture, environment sectors etc, to build holistic disaster preparedness and response strategies.

12. Advancing Research and Policy Development

We encourage evidence-based research, training exchanges, and policy development across member nations to enhance global health security and preparedness.

13. Empowering the Next Generation

We call to involve students and young professionals in healthcare in disaster preparedness initiatives to ensure continuity of resilience efforts.

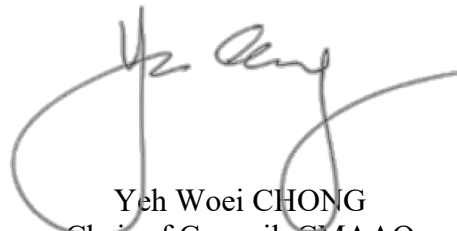
Conclusion

We, the undersigned, reaffirm our dedication to disaster preparedness, response, and management as essential pillars of strong health security. Through commitment, solidarity, innovation, and shared action, CMAAO nations pledge to build a safer, resilient, and compassionate future for our communities.

Signed on this day, 13th of December 2025, in Kathmandu, Nepal:



Anil Bikram KARKI
President, CMAAO



Yeh Woei CHONG
Chair of Council, CMAAO