



## Overview of the presentation



- Why is it important to be 'legally prepared' for international assistance?
- What are the IDRL Guidelines and how have they been used?
- What can we do now to improve our legal preparedness?





# Why legal preparedness for international disaster response? (IDRL)



- More frequent and larger natural disasters
- More and different international responders
- Absence of procedure to regulate the increasingly complex context

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# Research shows that the lack of legal preparedness hampers international relief



#### Research

- 27 legal case studies
- Global survey
- Regional forums





#### **Findings**

- Unnecessary delays and costs
- Unnecessary relief items, poor coordination, lack of respect





#### The IDRL Guidelines



- Adopted by consensus by the 30th International Conference in 2007
- Compile existing international norms and best practice
- Recommendations to governments on how to prepare domestic laws and procedures for international assistance

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# Implementation of the Guidelines

- Growing interest in the use of the IDRL Guidelines
  - 20 technical assistance projects
- Tangible progress at the national level
- 9 new laws/regs and 12 draft instruments
- Ongoing regional cooperation and partnerships - e.g ASEAN





Disaster Laws

### Next steps...



States (inc ARF) adopted a resolution at the 31<sup>st</sup> International Conference in 2011 which:

- Reiterated the urgency for states to be prepared to facilitate int'l assistance
- Renewed its call on states to use the IDRL Guidelines to examine and strengthen their laws
- Called on regional and international organizations to use the IDRL Guidelines as well

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### More work to be done!



 We need to see more states and more organisations take up the issue...



