

Munich Re Foundation Symposium

Worldwide Disaster Prevention – Awareness is the Key



Hohenkammer Charter

At the end of the symposium, the experts agreed on the Hohenkammer Charter, which formulates the ten most important challenges for the future.

- 1. Poverty:** People living in poverty are especially vulnerable; poverty relief is therefore a key element.
- 2. People:** Disaster prevention efforts must reach or start with the people in the areas at risk.
- 3. Decision-makers:** The swift implementation of viable preventative measures presupposes the committed involvement of decision-makers from communal to national government level.
- 4. Dialogue:** The exchange of views between those concerned must be actively pursued in order to achieve a common understanding of the problems and solutions.
- 5. Partnerships:** Politicians, trade and industry, scientists and those affected have to cooperate better and more efficiently. Alliances – public-private partnerships – have to be infused with life.
- 6. Development policy:** Risk prevention has to be singled out as one of the central components of development cooperation and national programmes, and implemented accordingly.
- 7. Propagation:** Promising risk prevention initiatives that currently exist at communal level must be transmitted and propagated worldwide.
- 8. Incentives:** Political, legal and economic incentives are called for, to support investment in disaster prevention, and to accelerate the processes involved.
- 9. Insurance:** Risk transfer, such as insurance and solidarity networks, helps reduce the vulnerability of governments and people in risk situations.
- 10. Awareness development:** Developing awareness is the key to the implementation of adequate measures before disaster strikes.