

"The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) is administering a Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Tsunami Early Warning Arrangements in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia. The Government of Thailand (foundation donor), Sweden, Turkey and Nepal have contributed to the Fund, and the General Assembly, in its resolution 62/91, invited Governments and other funding partners to consider contributing to it. The Fund supports a multi-hazard approach including early warning of tsunamis and other coastal hazards, and is programmed in close partnership with other United Nations entities, in particular ISDR, IOC UNESCO, UNDP and WMO. The Fund supports different elements of end-to-end early warning in the region including regional monitoring and warning capacities, disaster risk assessment, Standard Operating Procedures, education and awareness, and drills. Further information on the Fund and projects it is supporting, including the Strategic Plan, is available at (http://www.unescap.org/pmd/tsunami_index.asp). In connection with one Fund-supported project implemented by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC), certain countries in the Indian Ocean region have concluded an international agreement to pool resources in a Regional, Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES), for which the Government of Maldives serves as Secretariat."