**Professor Virginia Murray**

**High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development - Thursday 11 July 2019, 11am**

***Science policy interface including the briefing from the independent group of scientists on the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)***

First Statement

Distinguished colleagues, friends, I have the honour of a representative of the Major Groups and of the Sendai Stakeholders group and Integrated Research on Disaster Risk and as the Head of GDRR at Public Health England. As already mentioned, to us the need to ensure science can empower all the stakeholders, from policy makers to actors at the grassroots, is essential. It should be easily accessible to stakeholders and build their capacities in DRR. To us the Science Policy Interface provides important **coherence development** between SDGs, Sendai and CC Agreement. As an example of this is a new **UNDRR/ISC Technical Working Group on Sendai Hazards Review of Terminology and Classification**, working with UN agency partners as well as scientific partnerships, and where possible using traditional knowledge, which will be shared by the end of 2019. We hope that this may facilitate hazards standardisation for the Sendai Global Targets for all partners and communities at risk, thus enhancing **data sharing** and reporting to the Sendai Framework Monitor and potentially the SDGs VNR. What can the UN and other partners do to enlist science, technology and innovation as allies in the commitment to leave no one behind? To us the UN and its science and academic partners have increased engagement in the Agenda 2030. As a further example, WHO has recently launched its **Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Framework** engaging with many health scientists from WHO regional offices, government, NGOS and others. It bridges health and multi-sectoral communities to align health security, disaster risk reduction, humanitarian reform, climate change & sustainable development agendas. It is an approach to change the paradigm to a whole-of-society/multi-sectoral engagement, and includes planning with communities, to provide a risk-based, proactive, all-hazard, risk management mechanism. To us science should be useful, usable and used for all stakeholders as has been iterated already by others speaking in this session.

Second Statement

Thank you for inviting me to comment again. The sharing by the Independent Group of Scientists of their Global Sustainable Development Report shows that science and technology are very important. I'm just concerned that we are talking mostly about what we are doing for the Sustainable Development Goals and that the report appears to be missing the value of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and its reporting by UN member states via the Sendia Framework Monitor on mortality, morbidity, economic losses and infrastructure impacts from disasters. If we could use the Sendai Framework outcomes to support the Sustainable Development Goals more clearly, I think the linkages between these two processes would reduce data duplication issues and stresses for UN member states and facilitate a closer interface between science and policy for joint collaboration, partnerships, learning and capacity development to make sure we implement these vital 2015 UN landmark agreements and their global visions more effectively to help deliver Agenda 2030. Thank you