

ADVANCE UNEDITED VERSION

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

**Tenth United Nations Regional Cartographic
Conference for the Americas**

New York, 19-23, August 2013

Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda *

**Invited papers on recent developments in geospatial information
management in addressing national, regional and global issues**

**The Role of Information Communication Technology in advancing
Risk Resilience in Small Island Developing States ****

* E/CONF.103/1

** Prepared by Mr. Ronald Jackson, Executive Director, Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA)

The Role of Information Communication Technology in Advancing Risk Resilience in Small Island Developing States

Examples from the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) System

Prepared for the 10th United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas
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Disasters have the potential to cause severe disruption to the normal functioning of a society. The field of disaster risk management works at all phases of the disaster cycle to minimize the negative consequences of disasters. The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) has the mandate in the Caribbean region for provision of support to its eighteen (18) Participating States to reduce disaster risk and loss through the implementation of Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM). ICTs currently make an important contribution to the undertaking of CDEMA's functions in building resilience to disasters in the Caribbean region due to their capacity to facilitate improved flow of information, capital, ideas, people and products. Some key areas of application are administration, geographical information systems (GIS), hazard mapping and vulnerability assessment; early warning, information dissemination, emergency communications, resources tracking; and monitoring and detection.