



An international workshop on school earthquake safety organised by:
*Ministry of National Education, Republic of Turkey and
Economic Co-operation Organisation (ECO)*

*With the support of the
OECD Programme on Educational Building (PEB) and
GeoHazards International (GHI)*

Polat Renaissance Istanbul Hotel (www.polatrenaissance.com), Istanbul, 1-2 June 2006

Workshop recommendations

Learning from the international experience on school earthquake safety during the workshop, and

Recognising the:

High level of seismic hazard of the ECO countries;

- High earthquake risk of many schools in the region, and the collapse of many schools buildings in the past earthquakes in the region, *i.e.* 8 October 2005 Pakistan earthquake;
- Importance of children as our future and that they are currently in danger in highly vulnerable schools;
- Existence of the know-how, expertise and successful experience and achievement of school safety in the region; as well as the availability of international expertise through such organisations as OECD-PEB, GHI.
- Necessity to build the required technical capacity within the framework of the “Open Alliance of UNESCO-UNDP-UN/ISDR-IIEES” and other regional relevant institutions, and
- Necessity to develop a comprehensive and integrated program in the form of “Norms For Safe School” addressing earthquake awareness and preparedness as well as the school building (structural and non-structural) safety, in cooperation with international institutions;

The workshop participants from the ECO countries strongly recommend the organisation of “2nd ECO Workshop on School Earthquake Safety” with the objective of developing the future “Plan of Action for Improving School Earthquake Safety”, and forming a “High Level Expert Group on School Earthquake Safety” under ECO. The workshop will be held in the 4th quarter of 2006 in Pakistan with the cooperation of the Government of Pakistan.