



## National Model United Nations • DC

**Code:** ECOSOC/1/1

**Committee:** Economic and Social Council

**Topic:** Climate Change and Natural Disasters: Mitigating the Effects

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1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2  
3 *Recalling* General Assembly resolutions 71/256 (2017) and 55/2 (2001), the *New Urban Agenda*, and the *United*  
4 *Nations Millennium Declaration*, which acknowledge the effects of climate change on Member States, including  
5 natural disasters, rising sea levels, and unpredictable weather patterns,

6  
7 *Guided by* the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outlined in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*,  
8 specifically Health and Wellbeing (Goal 3), Clean Water and Sanitation (Goal 6), Reduced Inequalities (Goal 10),  
9 Climate Action (Goal 13), and Life Below Water (Goal 14),

10  
11 *Stressing* Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 1296 (XLIV), which allowed civil society  
12 organizations (CSOs) to play a formal role in the United Nations (UN) through ECOSOC by supporting and  
13 promoting the UN's goals and activities,

14  
15 *Recognizing* the importance of establishing awareness and educational campaigns for the citizens and their  
16 governing bodies as described in resolution 2018/26, *Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for*  
17 *the Decade 2011-2020*, to increase the collective efforts for preventative climate change practices,

18  
19 *Deeply concerned* by the exposure to preventable communicable diseases that arise following disaster situations  
20 while stressing the need for medical reform assistance within disaster prone areas or regions with high rates of  
21 incoming displaced people due to the loss of their homes, which contributes to a higher chance of epidemics or  
22 pandemics, which could be mitigated considering the introduction of vaccinations,

23  
24 *Expressing* the need for improvement and individualization of an adoptable, flexible emergency healthcare  
25 framework, in addition to recognizing the need to reduce vulnerability to the effects of a natural disaster, especially  
26 for marginalized group such as women, children, and people with disabilities (PWDs), who are more susceptible to  
27 the effects of natural disasters,

28  
29 *Fully aware* of the unequal effects that natural disasters have on developing Member States, which remain highly  
30 susceptible to the impacts of climate hazards due to socioeconomic inequality and geographic hardships,

31  
32 *Acknowledging* that agriculturally reliant developing Member States require crucial attention considering the costs  
33 of climate hazards are more expensive for countries with less diversified economies,

34  
35 *Further acknowledging* the Southern African Development Bank framework which identifies areas that are at risk of  
36 contaminated waters following natural disasters in developing nations and the dangers that follow are life  
37 threatening due to increase in droughts and contaminated nutrient resources,

38  
39 1. *Supports* the establishment of a sub-council, hereby referred to as the Council on Climate Change (CCC), under  
40 the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):

- 41  
42 a. With the purpose of considering social, cultural, and economic issues falling under the scope of The  
43 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) that have distinct relevance concerning climate change and  
44 natural disaster relief;

45

- 46 b. With membership of the council based upon compliance with the ideals put forth by the Charter of the  
47 United Nations and upon the relevant nature of NGOs with preference given to those NGOs that deal  
48 with, but are not limited to: sustainability, infrastructure development, humanitarian aid, medical  
49 assistance, renewable energy, and water sanitation;  
50
- 51 c. That meets annually to share information regarding successes and failures of previously undertaken  
52 initiatives that focus on:  
53
- 54 i. Organizing NGOs and fostering an environment of mutual cooperation and assistance that  
55 will more accurately address pertinent issues;  
56 ii. Emphasizing the coordination of resource allocation and humanitarian aid to ensure all  
57 Member States are provided with adequate relief by providing a physical platform to discuss  
58 current initiatives and what is lacking;  
59
- 60 d. To undertake projects to mitigate the effects of climate change and natural disasters including, but not  
61 limited to:  
62
- 63 i. Utilizing medically oriented NGO's, such as Doctors Without Borders to provide  
64 supplemental support to areas affected by natural disasters;  
65 ii. Focusing on teaching children in schools as well as existing businesses about the SDGs and  
66 how they impact groups in various areas;  
67 iii. Using tailored programs on local levels incorporating stakeholders to encourage conversations  
68 with NGOs in order to meet the specific needs of each municipality;  
69 iv. Promoting CSO integration to foster local engagement and easily spread the UN and expert's  
70 ideas;  
71
- 72 2. *Requests* that Member States consume and produce natural resources in a way that preserves our resources for  
73 future generations and helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions by:  
74
- 75 a. Utilizing NGOs and other organizations such as UN Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization  
76 (UNESCO), to implement and encourage responsible consumption patterns via training for Member  
77 States that have not yet consumed large amounts of natural resources;  
78
- 79 b. Reducing resource consumption, in addition to reusing and recycling potential waste as called for in  
80 SDG 12, including fossil fuels;  
81
- 82 3. *Recommends* the implementation and expansion of local education and training programs for vulnerable  
83 populations concerning climate change and the effects thereof with support from regional and international  
84 banks and organizations by:  
85
- 86 a. Incorporating a gender perspective into climate change training and education to empower women and  
87 decrease vulnerability;  
88
- 89 b. Assuring that these programs are fully accessible to these populations and include survival  
90 information, coping mechanisms, and resilience building to encourage disaster preparedness;  
91
- 92 c. Ensuring that data acquisition and needs assessments of these populations are available so these  
93 concerns can be effectively met;  
94
- 95 d. Supporting the role of UNESCO in assisting and establishing educational campaigns to ensure that  
96 children everywhere have equal access to natural disaster preparedness campaigns to ensure:  
97
- 98 i. Increased knowledge and expertise among children and adults;  
99 ii. Tailored curriculums to specific global disaster-prone regions so the education will be  
100 relevant to cultural norms and regional events;  
101

- 102 e. Focusing on disaster education to assist local populations in dealing with events and mitigating the  
103 risks by ways of:  
104
- 105 i. Encouraging the United Nations Development Programme to share knowledge with local  
106 populations to give tools concerning proper water use and to improve global living conditions;
  - 107 ii. Providing the highest quality of education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for  
108 all;
  - 109 iii. Using a new educative programme to raise awareness among the population concerning the  
110 importance of vaccination;
- 111
- 112 4. *Requests* agencies such as the World Health Organization to organize and assist in the construction in an  
113 adoptable and flexible emergency healthcare framework by means of:  
114
- 115 a. Expanding current healthcare systems through:  
116
    - 117 i. Ensuring there are ample doctors, nurses and other physicians to treat the population;
    - 118 ii. Creating training programs for citizens to become well-versed in emergency healthcare and  
119 first response though educational programs specifically catered for those who are not in the  
120 healthcare field, especially women or other minority groups who may not already educated  
121 and versed in first response;
  - 122
  - 123 b. Bringing in specialized doctors to better treat marginalized groups such as gynecologists for women,  
124 pediatricians for children, and specific healthcare providers for PWDs:  
125
    - 126 i. As well as providing specific medical education to local doctors to provide a substantial  
127 healthcare infrastructure in the long term;
    - 128 ii. With the goal of quicker and more accurate recovery to those peoples following a natural  
129 disaster;
  - 130
  - 131 c. Expanding vaccinations for preventable communicable disease that could arise after natural disaster  
132 situations into impoverished areas that do not have access to these resources by:  
133
    - 134 i. Educating areas that consistently have not had access to vaccinations while maintaining  
135 cultural boundaries;
    - 136 ii. Training local doctors to administer vaccines to babies and young children;
    - 137 iii. Creating an educational plan for healthcare providers to ensure that doctors and nurses are  
138 prepared to deal with an influx of patients following a natural disaster;
  - 139
- 140 5. *Promoting* initiatives directed by Member States and aimed at the private and public sectors regarding  
141 preventative measures as it connects to natural disasters such as:  
142
- 143 a. Advocacy for governmentally regulated methods to mitigate deforestation and logging, such as the  
144 incorporation of recycling programs, tree-planting initiatives, and looking to the assistance of  
145 organizations such as the Forest Stewardship Council to ensure eco-friendly products;
  - 146
  - 147 b. Encouraging the adoption of water treatment plant technology within developing Member States to  
148 counteract the rapidly increasing demand of water such that the addition of local water treatment plants  
149 within communities will make indigenous peoples less susceptible to danger and dehydration;
  - 150
  - 151 c. The improvement of post-natural disaster water management strategies including the cleaning of  
152 polluted irrigation systems that feed into agricultural communities;
  - 153
- 154 6. *Calls Upon* the expansion of the international community of early warning technology systems that are already  
155 in existence in Member States such as the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's operated Daymet, a  
database with a standard interface which provides daily updated weather data, coming from phone applications,

157 television warnings, and multi-messaging systems that could be expanded worldwide to warn regions ahead of  
158 time of possible dangers by:

- 159
- 160 a. Increasing awareness in any region where danger is possible to warn all in peril of procedures and  
161 methods to save lives;
- 162
- 163 b. Communicating with and evacuating those most at risk including women, children, PWDs, and those  
164 impoverished, which will include the level of threat, timing of evacuation, and location for evacuation;
- 165
- 166 c. Implementing in place a financial regional support system to help lower income countries, who are  
167 deeply affected by natural disasters, to create or share these technologies to warn communities by:
- 168
- 169 i. Establishing affordable telecommunication per zones or alarm systems that is aligned with the  
170 available Daymet system;
- 171 ii. Implementation can consist of cooperation between government bodies and NGOs;
- 172
- 173 d. Expanding from the geographical areas of North America to cover other continents.



## National Model United Nations • DC

**Code:** ECOSOC/1/2

**Committee:** Economic and Social Council

**Topic:** Natural Disasters and Climate Change: Mitigating the Effects

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1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2  
3 *Recalling* General Assembly resolution 46/182 and 71/127, which call upon the international community for better  
4 coordination and strengthening the capacity of the international system when responding to natural disasters,

5  
6 *Recognizing* the lack of a uniform approach to natural disasters among Member States in the need to tackle climate  
7 change through a collaborative approach utilizing the regional commissions,

8  
9 *Underscoring* the importance of international cooperation in developing the capacities of Member States in all  
10 phases of crisis, including minimizing disaster-related damages, from prevention to reconstruction and response, as  
11 stated in General Assembly resolution 57/152,

12  
13 *Acknowledging* the successes of the current database of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Consultative  
14 Status organizations coordinated by the NGO Branch of the Office of ECOSOC Support and Coordination, through  
15 promotion of information sharing through platforms such as the United Nations (UN) Department of Economic and  
16 Social Affairs and non-governmental organization (NGO) newsletters to share information regarding disaster risk  
17 reduction and post-disaster recovery processes, including but not limited to papers focused on climate science and  
18 articles focused on new technology regarding disaster risk reduction,

19  
20 *Seeking* further development of educational programs on disaster risk reduction among Member States by re-  
21 emphasizing and improving the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) “Build Back Better”,  
22 an all-stakeholder national-level disaster recovery framework that formalizes protocols and mechanisms for  
23 effective assessment of post-disaster recovery, which was created in 2017 in support of the *Sendai Framework for*  
24 *Disaster Risk Reduction,*

25  
26 *Acknowledging* the commitments made in the 2015 *Paris Agreement* and 2030 *Agenda for Sustainable Development*  
27 to further strengthen global response to climate change and to undertake ambitious measures and work together  
28 towards a common cause,

29  
30 *Deeply appreciative* of civil society efforts and further encouraging collaboration with ECOSOC and NGOs,  
31 particularly those with ECOSOC accreditation, through a forum that would focus on risk reduction, disaster-  
32 mitigation, and supporting local community resilience, in association with the UNISDR,

33  
34 *Deeply concerned* with the costly aftermath of rebuilding infrastructure and society following natural disasters and  
35 recognizing the significance of infrastructure in forming resilient and sustainable communities and that national  
36 building codes and development programs must be updated in order to make current and future structures strong in  
37 case of disasters,

38  
39 *Deeply convinced* by the significance of proper building codes in forming resilient and sustainable communities and  
40 that national building codes and development programs must be updated through scientific land-surveying  
41 programs,

42  
43 *Fully aware* that natural disasters can compromise medical relief, and that according to the United Nations  
44 Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Heritage Center’s Action Plan for Haiti, more than 50% of  
45 hospitals and 80% of schools were destroyed in the 2010 earthquake,

46

47 *Reiterating* the role of international disaster databases such as the DesInventar database and the Emergency Events  
48 Database (EM-DAT), in storing historical data on natural disasters, particularly those in South America, therefore  
49 increasing understanding of disaster patterns, fostering cross-border data sharing, and spreading environmental  
50 awareness among local communities,

51  
52 *Drawing attention* to the Nansen Initiative and the increase of human mobility due to natural disasters caused by  
53 climate change,

- 54  
55 1. *Recommends* the creation of the NGO Education via Technology for Worldwide Organization to Respond to  
56 Catastrophes (NETWORK), which would:
- 57 a. Be organized and implemented into various test areas to be determined by the President and/or a senior  
58 official to which they delegate, to:
    - 59 i. Act as a pilot program for possible future implementation on a global scale as an official body  
60 subordinate to the ECOSOC;
    - 61 ii. Engage in an analysis of the success of the program in accomplishing the goals of facilitating  
62 increased inter-NGO and NGO-government communication and information sharing;
    - 63 iii. Determine which subsidiary body of ECOSOC should advise the NETWORK mechanism,  
64 with recommendation to propose a collaborative effort between the ECOSOC Committee on  
65 NGOs, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and UN Development Programme  
66 Transparency Team;
    - 67
    - 68
    - 69
  - 70 b. Provide easily acceptable guidelines for the submission and publication of data by NGOs seeking to  
71 share their best practices as described in Clause 1(c);
  - 72
  - 73 c. Entertain at any time the submission of NGO reports to the NETWORK mechanism of ECOSOC,  
74 called herein NETWORK Advisories concerning best practices on the mitigation of climate change  
75 and natural disasters, wherein:
    - 76 i. The NETWORK mechanism would compile completed NETWORK Advisories into a  
77 NETWORK Directive as detailed in Clause 2, an anthology;
    - 78 ii. The NETWORK mechanism will review in a timely manner submitted NETWORK  
79 Advisories for quality assurance purposes before being published to the ECOSOC website;
    - 80 iii. The NETWORK mechanism would allow NETWORK Advisories to submit information into  
81 categories relating to each Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) to facilitate documentation  
82 on progress towards achieving Agenda 2030;
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    - 84
  - 85 d. Encourage specific action on the part of the ECOSOC, the Member State, and other parties in the form  
86 of official NETWORK Directives as outlined in Clause 2 in relation to the information contained  
87 within individual NETWORK Advisories, emphasizing best practices on combating climate change  
88 and natural disasters on a local, national, and international level, while:
    - 89 i. Considering all information published by relevant UN employees and bodies like NDPs  
90 authored in conjunction with the UN, as well as that collected and published by NGOs both  
91 through NETWORK Advisories and outside forums;
    - 92 ii. Considering information collected by the Member State, or an UN-recognized  
93 intergovernmental body with which the Member State is associated, that is not included in  
94 NGO NETWORK Advisory submissions at the discretion of the NETWORK mechanism;
    - 95 iii. Analyzing the Member State's existing policies and practices regarding climate change and  
96 natural disaster mitigation when advising the Member State on how to implement best  
97 practices described in Clause 2;
    - 98 iv. Advising NGOs that submit NETWORK Advisories concerning connections with ECOSOC  
99 and UN Development Programme (UNDP), private individuals, and all levels of government  
100 that may assist in disseminating the principles outlined in individual Advisories to assist local  
101 populations in responding to climate change and natural disasters on a grassroots level;

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- e. Communicate with individual United Nations Country Teams (UNCTs) as well as NGOs present in local areas around the world in regard to NETWORKC Advisories and Directives to encourage:
    - i. Partnerships between Member States, UNCTs, national and local NGOs to stimulate the establishment and implementation of best practices to fit the needs of diverse local populations;
    - ii. NGOs with existing infrastructure related or dedicated to the study of the environment in areas where adequate reporting by the Member State is incomplete or non-existent to specialize in reporting the status of climate change and natural disaster mitigation efforts provided that the services rendered do not distract from the original mission of the NGO;
    - iii. NGOs that have experience building and maintaining infrastructure related or dedicated to the mitigation of climate change and natural disasters to establish a presence in areas where adequate reporting by the Member State is incomplete or non-existent concerning the effects of climate change and natural disasters;
2. *Recommends* the collection and publication of an anthology of globally-implementable best practices regarding the mitigation of climate change and natural disasters as published in NETWORKC Advisories through an annually released NETWORKC Directive, which would:
- a. Collect data and research on the effects of climate change and natural disasters worldwide;
  - b. Analyze the effects of climate change and natural disasters on vulnerable populations;
  - c. Present a comprehensive guide based on summaries of submitted NETWORKC Advisories that will:
    - i. Discuss best practices on how to mitigate the effects of climate change and natural disasters;
    - ii. Keep a focus on strengthening local capacities for development and resiliency;
  - d. Select best-of-the-best practices that can be implemented universally and highlight such principles as part of the larger and more comprehensive NETWORKC Directive;
  - e. Organize the NETWORKC Directive into two sections that:
    - i. Comprises of Clause 2(a) and 2(b) to be titled “General Information and Data;”
    - ii. Are made up of Clause 2(c) and 2(d) called “Advising;”
    - iii. Further organize “Advising” into sections based on the SDGs best practices outlined in NETWORKC Advisories included therein seek to comply with;
  - f. Affirm and explain the connection between NETWORKC Advisories and the SDG in which they are categorized so that they;
  - g. Serve as a call to action encouraging Member States, NGOs, and local populations to adopt best practices regarding the mitigation of the effects of climate change, highlight the benefits of inter-NGO and NGO-government cooperation, as well as increase the attention paid to the topic by:
    - i. Working together to share expertise and technology with countries around the world in order to support them in their sustainable development;
    - ii. Taking note of the current role of regional commissions and strengthening and further emphasizing the role of these commissions in response to natural disasters and climate change;
    - iii. The sharing of appropriate mechanisms and technology to further expedite mitigating the effects of natural disasters and climate change;
3. *Recommends* a preference within the NETWORKC mechanism for the construction of network infrastructure among developing Member States, so that:

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- a. The disparity in development between countries is assessed and addressed;
  - b. The NETWORKC mechanism is not only accessible for developed countries, but also for developing countries and their citizens;
  - c. Developing countries can benefit economically from said construction through the following:
    - i. The diversification of countries in which local NGOs have primary operations;
    - ii. The creation of local NETWORKC mechanism-related jobs within the program;
  - d. NGOs which are members in the NETWORKC mechanism can have local presence within developing countries to:
    - i. Spread awareness of the idea of NGOs;
    - ii. Encourage participation of developing countries' citizens in NGOs;
4. *Endorses* an approach towards more sustainable, disaster risk-reducing practices among Member States, by:
- a. Developing emergency school programmes, such as evacuation drills and first aid administration education to create a more efficient first response, aiding a significantly impacted demographic;
  - b. Encouraging Member States to revise and update building codes to build the resiliency of the public sector, specifically medical centers and schools to minimize loss of infrastructure;
5. *Encourages* the combination of the Aqueduct Global Flood Analyzer and the Hydrometeorological Monitoring Systems and investment for the development of seismic, meteorological and hydrological monitoring stationed which are effective in gathering preliminary data and predicting abnormal weather patterns, particularly in small-island developing states monitored by the UNISDR so that:
- a. Global flood risks can be quantified and visualized by estimating current and future potential exposed gross domestic product (GDP), affected populations, and urban damage from river floods for every Member State and major river basin;
  - b. States who choose to work with the World Bank to implement Hydrometeorological Monitoring Systems will be more able to protect their at-risk loss of GDP projected by the Aqueduct Global Flood Analyzer;
  - c. Rainfall input can be provided to Member States through hydrologic and flash flood models, ultimately supporting flash flood forecasts;
  - d. Multinational companies and international development and financing organizations like the World Bank can assess and prepare to salvage the GDP by prioritizing investments in natural disaster preventive measures;
  - e. Private insurance companies can assess risks more efficiently to expand their portfolios in order to explain the importance of insurance to potential clients, ultimately improving the GDP of the state while simultaneously ensuring a safety net for at-risk citizens;
6. *Encourages* regional and national-level sharing of disaster risk reduction frameworks and infrastructure investment via:
- a. Designation of Regional Commissions: Economic Commission for Africa, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean, Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia to carry out the roles and



- 214 responsibilities in the cooperation of humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and mitigating the effects  
215 of climate change;  
216
- 217 b. Altering the UNISDR “Build Back Better” to reflect priorities relating to climate change and natural  
218 disaster risk reduction by:
- 219
- 220 i. Educating Member States how to effectively use this framework by explaining that the  
221 development of these works is meant to clarify intergovernmental and inter-organizational  
222 relationships, roles, and responsibilities, while also documenting common recovery goals,  
223 objectives, and vision statements;
- 224 ii. Defining stakeholder roles, responsibilities, and expected recovery capacities on a case by  
225 case basis as they pertain to both recovery preparedness (pre and post disaster recovery  
226 planning and operations);
- 227 iii. Designating stakeholder roles to include civil defense organizations and national,  
228 state/provincial, and local government agencies involved in long term disaster recovery,  
229 government business support agencies, members of national platforms for disaster risk  
230 reduction, the private sector, banking sector representatives, insurance sector representatives,  
231 public infrastructure sectors, construction sector representatives, social networks including  
232 diasporas, and public administration/public policy experts;
- 233 iv. Urges the dispense of mechanisms of national coordination for disaster risk in education and  
234 future projects through civil society and incorporation, with emergency response reform to  
235 encompass a longer lasting timeline through seismic risk mitigation projects and disaster and  
236 emergency management;
- 237 v. Recommending that the program framework expands to encompass both a regional and  
238 national level data sharing rather than solely a national by encouraging Member States to  
239 participate in triangular and bilateral cooperation;
- 240
- 241 c. Suggesting the usage and improvement of early detection systems and alarm networks such as Japan’s  
242 J-Alert system and others that effectively monitor and give warning of hurricanes, floods, wildfires,  
243 volcanic activity, and tsunamis;
- 244
- 245 d. Calls upon increased funding for the establishment of civil protection committees with trained  
246 professionals who are taught risk assessment, resource conservation, and emergency mobilization in  
247 nations of necessity;
- 248
- 249 e. Recommends the use of the NETWORKC mechanism as a forum by Member States to allow for the  
250 members of ECOSOC, states party to the *Sendai Declaration*, and NGOs attempting to mitigate  
251 climate change and natural disasters to:
- 252
- 253 i. Be able to more efficiently advise on and institute new policies;
- 254 ii. Deliberate and resolve any issues which arise due to natural disasters;
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- 256 7. *Recommends* the formation of a global research commission that will contribute to zoning and development  
257 programs in association with both the United Nations Environment Programme - Sustainable Building and  
258 Climate Initiative, UNDP, and the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development  
259 by:
- 260
- 261 a. Urging Member States to develop clean energy sources through the development of green  
262 infrastructure;
- 263
- 264 b. Adoption of a scientific initiative that would handle land and geological surveys among Member  
265 States;
- 266
- 267 c. Findings that would be organized and given to either each Member States’ legislative bodies or local  
268 government units for them to base their policies on;
- 269

- 270 d. Encouragement of local architectural and land surveying entities to participate in the program;  
271  
272 e. Calling upon the international community to establish national agencies to coordinate post disaster  
273 response operations effectively by managing relief at the local and federal level through:  
274  
275 i. Requesting studies to be performed in conjunction with the UNISDR to examine UN  
276 Development Fund details on spending;  
277 ii. Updating procedures to enhance effectiveness of existing UN bodies and increasing funding  
278 for infrastructure support;  
279
- 280 8. *Suggests* the multilateral adoption of the Platform on Disaster Displacement as parts of National Adaptation  
281 Plans to aid environmentally displaced persons by:  
282  
283 a. Using climate conscious data to prepare populations for natural disasters and possible displacement;  
284  
285 b. Expanding existing platforms to provide information regarding evacuation, resettlement, and  
286 temporary shelters.



## National Model United Nations • DC

**Code:** ECOSOC/1/3

**Committee:** Economic and Social Council

**Topic:** Natural Disaster and Climate Change: Mitigating the effects

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1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2  
3 *Recognizing* the need to provide appropriate funding for development projects in order to ensure resistance and  
4 resilience against the effects of natural disasters while highlighting the fact that the combined wealth of non-  
5 governmental organizations (NGOs) would be equivalent to the fifth highest gross domestic product (GDP)  
6 worldwide, which shows the importance of cooperation between civil society, the private sector, and Member States  
7 in mitigating the effects of natural disasters,

8  
9 *Remembering* that marginalized populations are more vulnerable to the devastating effects of natural disasters,  
10 applauding the implementation of safeguards for those individuals in response to disasters,

11  
12 *Acknowledging* the need to enhance funding strategies for sustainable agricultural practices that encourage disaster  
13 resilience by internationally exchanging best practices concerning sustainable agricultural methods,

14  
15 *Cognizant* of the importance of rebuilding infrastructure after natural disasters that are more resilient and sustainable  
16 in order to prevent similar damage to infrastructure from happening again,

17  
18 *Emphasizing* the need to alleviate environmental catastrophes in line with the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk*  
19 *Reduction* (2015) and Sustainable Development Goals 13 regarding Climate Action and 15 regarding Life on Land,

20  
21 *Alarmed* by the 2017 report by the World Bank, which estimated the annual cost of natural disasters on the  
22 international community at over 500 billion dollars,

23  
24 *Encouraged* by the success of existing international aid relief funds such as donation by the World Bank and the  
25 United Nations Children’s Funds to disproportionately affected Member States,

26  
27 *Acknowledges* with deep gratitude the organizational session for 2008, that orchestrated the World Bank’s response  
28 to the 2008 global food crisis, and allowed ECOSOC to establish the panels on “Humanitarian challenges related to  
29 global food aid, including enhancing international efforts and cooperation in this field” and “Disaster risk reduction  
30 and preparedness: addressing the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters,”

31  
32 1. *Endorsing* sanitation and hygiene provisions are made specifically to cater for the needs of women and children  
33 in the post-disaster rehabilitation period by:

34  
35 a. Ensuring that schools and medical centers are well-funded and prepared to deal with the effects of  
36 natural disasters;

37  
38 b. Spreading education to those groups who are ill equipped to deal with natural disasters;

39  
40 c. Increasing the role of women in the decision-making process in terms of natural disaster response  
41 within Member States;

42  
43 2. *Encourages* willing Member States with expertise in resiliency to cooperate with those impacted by  
44 environmental catastrophes to ensure that infrastructure is rebuilt with:

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46 a. Expertise and information sharing about successful development plans;

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- b. Early warning systems integrated to lessen the negative effects of natural disasters;
  - 3. *Endorses* programs that educate the general public and future generations on effective strategies to prepare for disasters and be able to minimize the damages caused by these disasters;
  - 4. *Recommends* Member States enhance their early warning mechanisms by incentivizing constant renewal of the in-use technological tools that monitor natural hazards and predict their impact by:
    - a. Investing in modern technology;
    - b. Orchestrating programs to enhance capacity-building for disaster readiness;
    - c. Constructing awareness campaigns, training and educational programs directed to rural communities and civil society organizations;
    - d. Implementing area-specialized measures for the purposes of evaluation, forecasting, impediment, and attenuation of natural calamities;
  - 5. *Promoting* the exploration of a partnership with the World Bank which would create a funding platform to lessen the economic shock on each Member State that experiences natural disasters through:
    - a. The usage of rapporteurs from the World Bank and ECOSOC to assess risks within Member States susceptible to natural disasters;
    - b. The voluntary payment of all Member States willing to donate toward the international natural disaster relief fund;
    - c. The creation of special council selected by ECOSOC that oversees the relief fund and ensures that the money is properly allocated;
  - 6. *Suggests* willing Member States to promote the cooperation of civil society and multi-national corporations operating in developing Member States in aid-related campaigns which benefit vulnerable groups by:
    - a. Developing early warning systems within vulnerable populations in order to give time to prepare for a disaster;
    - b. Creating international risk assessment by special rapporteurs to identify areas inhabited by underrepresented and vulnerable groups;
    - c. Implementing technology that improves the access to clean water in poverty-stricken areas;
    - d. Relocating vulnerable populations impacted by natural disasters to safe zones;
    - e. Increasing cooperation with civil society organizations who provide social services to vulnerable populations impacted by natural disasters;
  - 7. *Encourages* the implementation of effective forms of research and the assessment of disaster-prone areas by UN subsidiaries including, but not limited to:
    - a. The United Nations Development Programme;
    - b. The Food and Agricultural Organization, drawing emphasis toward innovative programs such as urban peri-agriculture;

- 102 c. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, using their research range into the  
103 most vulnerable areas;  
104
- 105 8. *Stresses* the importance of promoting private-public cooperation between civil society and Member States for  
106 building resilient communities by using increased potential for:  
107
- 108 a. Expertise sharing in areas related to climate related disasters between Member States and civil society;  
109
- 110 b. Capacity building and funding from private organizations;  
111
- 112 c. Direct involvement in communities within developing countries in order to build sustainable and green  
113 infrastructures.



## National Model United Nations • DC

**Code:** ECOSOC/1/4

**Committee:** Economic and Social Council

**Topic:** Natural Disasters and Climate Change: Mitigating the Effects

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1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2  
3 *Reaffirming* the Secretary General's message for International Day for Disaster Reduction in which he  
4 acknowledges that there has been great success in reducing the number of lives lost to disasters due to the  
5 development of early warning systems and that the international community must implement ways to provide even  
6 earlier warnings,

7  
8 *Bearing in mind* that the lack of developed infrastructure, such as early warning systems, emergency shelters, and  
9 flood prevention systems, increases the amount of lives lost and damages in natural disasters due to lack of  
10 previously mentioned mechanisms, to deal with and the appropriate mitigation of the effects of active disasters,

11  
12 *Recalling* Sustainable Development Goal 9, which recognizes the need to develop quality, reliable, sustainable and  
13 resilient infrastructure,

14  
15 *Affirming* Economic and Social Council resolution 1296, which recognizes the consultation of non-governmental  
16 organizations (NGOs) as an essential role in furthering the purposes and principles of the United Nations (UN),

17  
18 *Acknowledging with concern* the statistics of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC) and their  
19 notes on the possible effects and dangers of ocean natural disasters such as tsunamis and floods, due to the possible  
20 rise of global temperature by 1.5°C if permafrost continues to defrost at its current rate,

21  
22 *Emphasizing* the maintenance of public order through public service in emergency situations, the organization of  
23 public servants to safeguard the material and civil interests in emergency situations, as well as property in the areas  
24 affected by temporary displacement,

25  
26 *Enhancing* evaluation of the medical-sanitary consequences of emergencies through NGOs such as the Red Cross, to  
27 reduce the risk of spreading of infections for displaced civilians who are receiving emergency medical attention with  
28 participation of relevant ministries,

29  
30 *Expressing deep concern* about the destruction to infrastructure caused by natural disasters such as tsunamis, and the  
31 risk they present to coastal nations,

32  
33 *Noting* the availability of technologies such as satellite communication technology and mobile messaging  
34 communication and their success in Cuba and Bangladesh,

35  
36 1. *Calls upon* Member States to adopt the framework of the Global Peatlands Initiative, which is an effort of  
37 collaborating Member States to work towards:

- 38  
39 a. Providing an updated assessment of the status of carbon stocks such as peatlands and trees to mitigate  
40 the rise of global temperatures and thus reducing greenhouse emissions and mitigate rising sea levels  
41 by continuing to establish an annual conference of participating Member States to be continued by the  
42 Conference Parties of the UNFCCC;

43

- 44           b. Restoring and developing options to reduce the degradation, and effect of natural disasters through the  
45           determined allocation of funds from sources specified in Clause 2(d) to be used towards implementing  
46           land reserves dedicated to peatlands and other forms of carbon stock;  
47
- 48   2. *Calls upon* Member States to implement and share technological infrastructures such as Early Warning Systems  
49   and wireless mesh technologies to mitigate the losses incurred from natural disasters by:  
50
- 51           a. Integrating the use of currently existing subterranean sensors and space technologies to monitor and  
52           forecast potential incoming disaster, which are technologies currently used in Korea;  
53
- 54           b. Encouraging the sharing of such technologies with Developing and Least Developed Countries,  
55           allowing these vulnerable countries to build capacities for risk-reduction;  
56
- 57           c. Developing wireless mesh technology, which allows a private connection between devices and nodes if  
58           they are contiguous, thus enabling continued communication even when infrastructure, such as cell  
59           towers and traditional landlines, has been lost following a natural disaster;  
60
- 61           d. Implementing a Voluntary Funded Disaster Warning Trust, which will include donations from  
62           generous Member States, private institutions, and any funds voluntarily donated by stakeholders for  
63           the sole purpose of implementing early warning systems;  
64
- 65   3. *Invites* aid relief from NGOs to aid in the adaptation and instillation of evacuation plans as well as sustainable  
66   development of disaster-preparedness infrastructure to better establish proper frameworks in developing  
67   Member States, including:  
68
- 69           a. Constructing shelters beneath cities to provide protection in the case of natural disasters as well as  
70           serve as a base of operations for aid workers;  
71
- 72           b. Developing flood prevention systems surrounding public buildings, specifically shelters as well as  
73           schools and hospitals and when focusing on Member States with waterways prone to overflowing,  
74           install preventative measures such as leaving room for waterways to expand, in order to decrease the  
75           effects of flooding;  
76
- 77   4. *Encourages* all Member States to increase NGO involvement in disaster response, providing access to local  
78   CSOs and their leaders, who have experience and insight in how their areas respond to disaster as permitted by  
79   Chapter X Article 71 of the *Charter of the United Nations*, in order to familiarize NGOs with the best course of  
80   action, through the process of consulting and coordinating efforts in order to help in defining priorities in  
81   dispensing aid.



## National Model United Nations • DC

**Code:** ECOSOC/1/5

**Committee:** Economic and Social Council

**Topic:** Natural Disasters and Climate Change: Mitigating the Effects

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1 *The Economic and Social Council,*

2  
3 *Recognizing* the surge and capacity growth in the installation and consumption of renewable energy sources around  
4 the world reported in the Renewable Capacity Statistics 2018 by the International Renewable Energy Agency  
5 (IRENA),

6  
7 *Promoting* Member States' transition to green energy through competitive, sustainable, and ethical strategies for  
8 national and local energy source utilization,

9  
10 *Realizing* that coastal areas have a respectable renewable energy potential, specifically potential to harness solar  
11 energy and ocean wave energy,

12  
13 *Taking note* of efforts to invest in renewable energy currently rather than postponed, such as wind and solar will  
14 profit its investors and the consumers economically and will directly contribute to mitigating the effects of natural  
15 disasters and climate change,

16  
17 *Recognizing* the work done by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), which serves as  
18 the focal point in the international system for the coordination of disaster reduction activities and its adoption of the  
19 International Strategy for Disaster under General Assembly resolution 56/195,

20  
21 *Recalling* the Secretary-General's Independent Expert Advisory Group's efforts to overcome inequalities between  
22 data-poor and data-rich countries in order to make Big Data technologies accessible to all Member States,

23  
24 *Referring to* the UNISDR report on economic losses, poverty and disasters from 1998-2017, which states that direct  
25 economic losses from natural disasters worldwide between 1998 and 2017 is valued at US\$ 2,908 billion, and that  
26 77% of that is the result of climate related disasters,

27  
28 *Further recalling* the adoption of General Assembly resolution 70/1, *Transforming Our World: 2030 Agenda for*  
29 *Sustainable Development* especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12 (Responsible Consumption and  
30 Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life below Water), and SDG 15 (Life on Land),

31  
32 *Reminding* all nations of recent world consensus on mitigating the effects of natural disasters and climate change,  
33 especially the *Paris Agreement* and *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*, with the former aiming to  
34 accelerate the action needed for a sustainable low carbon future, and latter listing seven global target to reduce  
35 damages caused by natural disasters,

36  
37 *Noting with regret* the lack of international attention and budget for dealing with climate change due to other  
38 ongoing issues,

- 39  
40 1. *Requests* exploration of the implementation of an initiative called "UN Green" which would further promote the  
41 production of green energy innovation, utilization of green energy technologies to improve sustainable building  
42 resilience, education of young generations on climate change, and reduction of disaster risks via increased  
43 efficiency in funding and deeper engagement with prioritized Sustainable Development Goals;
- 44  
45 2. *Recommends* Member States promote extensive production of renewable energy that serves the purpose of  
46 cutting down carbon footprint generally generated by the burning of fossil fuel, with the focus on:



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- a. Wind energy by:
    - i. Promoting the generation of wind energy into electricity, with Samsø Island as a pioneering example;
    - ii. Replacing vertical-axis wind turbines with horizontal-axis ones for better energy productivity;
    - iii. Maximizing the amount of energy generated by relocating wind turbines in low pressure areas to high pressure areas;
  - b. Solar energy by:
    - i. Promoting the generation of solar energy into electricity, with the island of Ta'u as a pioneering example;
    - ii. Commending the use of solar panels in sunny and unclouded areas;
    - iii. Protecting solar power electricity generating sites from any severe weather effects and human vandalism;
    - iv. Producing minimal impacts on public health and safety, thanks to the lack of harmful emissions;
  - c. Hybrid solar-hydro renewable energy technology into coastal power plants (CPPs) that can be utilized across the shoreline of coastal countries, taking into account the environmental concerns to mitigate impacts on the local ecosystems;
3. *Suggests* the use of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization database and forum to share best practices and benefits of green energy in order to:
- a. Provide ready access to quantitative data on how Member States have significantly improved since the integration of green energy which will incentivize Member States to conceive green energy initiatives in their regions, inspired by the successful models of pilot states;
  - b. Amend the distribution of information on modern green technology, as technology is constantly evolving and lacks a centralized database for best practices;
4. *Endorses* the development and implementation of technologies to construct new, more resilient infrastructure, including but not limited to:
- a. Maps marking wind-driven rain areas, areas with swellable soils such as clay, and groundwater influence, and areas of former opencast and underground mining to avoid further constructions and deliver assistance to such areas faster when disasters strike;
  - b. Infrastructure built with resilient materials including thermal insulation and floating mechanisms to avoid problems such as overheating and flooding of buildings;
5. *Recommends* countries update current infrastructure to better withstand and decrease the economic impact of natural disasters by investing in new technologies by:
- a. Adding the eccentrically braced steel frames (EBFs) to the exterior of buildings, making them earthquake-resistant; combining the stiffness of a braced frame with the great energy dissipation of a movement-resisting frame;
  - b. Adding temperature sensors linked to de-icing agents that can prevent the contraction of roads and bridges to prevent loss of their structural integrity when facing natural disasters such as earthquakes;
  - c. Bracing bridges with struts intended to crumple to absorb seismic activity;

- 102 d. Constructing setback levees with a minimum gap of 40 meters between the rivers and themselves,  
103 promoting a more ecologically healthy and dynamic river system;  
104
- 105 e. Nurturing waterborne plants that can flourish within the gaps between the levees and rivers to hold soil  
106 in place during flooding;  
107
- 108 f. Constructing a green infrastructure using plants, reefs, sand, and natural barriers to reduce erosion and  
109 flooding, vegetative shorelines supply several ecosystem benefits, including improved water quality,  
110 aquatic habitat, and carbon sequestration;  
111
- 112 6. *Recommends* ECOSOC collaborate further with leading academics from around the world that will:  
113
- 114 a. Use existing data collected and published by governments, NGOs, and UN Country Teams (UNCTs)  
115 to evaluate and grade the quality and preparedness of national disaster risk reduction infrastructure and  
116 policy efforts in each Member State on a rubric assessing:  
117
- 118 i. The quality of infrastructure, especially in key populated or otherwise vulnerable areas;  
119 ii. The amount of international cooperation engaged in as regards to disaster risk reduction;  
120 iii. The involvement and education of civil society at large on applicable disaster risk mitigation  
121 methods that can reduce casualties among civilian populations;  
122
- 123 b. Issue recommendations to UNCTs on how to improve disaster risk reduction techniques in individual  
124 Member States as well as advising ECOSOC and the UN as a whole on how the international  
125 community can further integrate its efforts;  
126
- 127 c. Endeavor to work with the City Resilience Index supported by the World Bank and the Rockefeller  
128 Center to establish better qualified analysis of infrastructure in highly populated areas;  
129
- 130 7. *Encourages* improvements in agricultural productivity through environmentally-friendly production of livestock  
131 to decrease methane gas emission, a contributor to climate change and natural disasters, by:  
132
- 133 a. Repurposing viable wastes in feedlots by using it as a fertilizer to increase agricultural progress;  
134
- 135 b. Discouragement of deforestation for the purpose of grazing livestock;  
136
- 137 c. The use of methane-reducing feed additives and supplements subsequently reduce enteric methane  
138 emissions;  
139
- 140 d. Encourages the use of anaerobic digesters to harvest methane from waste to reduce the emission into  
141 the environment and produce green electricity;  
142
- 143 8. *Encourages* the UNISDR to work more closely with the following initiatives:  
144
- 145 a. The Quake-Catcher Network, a collaborative initiative for developing a low-cost strong-motion seismic  
146 network by utilizing sensors in and attached to internet-connected computers;  
147
- 148 b. The Global Flood Detection System, which monitors floods worldwide using near-real time satellite  
149 data;  
150
- 151 c. The Big Data for Social Good Initiative, which leverages the data collected by mobile operators to  
152 access location and usage information in near real time, enabling relief agencies to identify zones at  
153 risk and direct resources efficiently;  
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- 155 9. *Recommends* that all Member States adopt an Early Warning System in island states through the design and  
156 obtainment of:  
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- a. Updated knowledge of every known natural risk and vulnerability;
  - b. Technical monitoring mechanisms such as forecasting and modelling technology, remote sensing and geographic information system;
  - c. An SMS alert system upon the detection of potential disasters in the languages and formats understandable to the local communities;
- 166 10. *Recommends* the usage of the World Bank by developing countries to prevent exclusion from access to the “UN  
167 Green” initiative, wherein:
- 168 a. The relationships between the Member States and the World Bank would be defined by:
    - 171 i. Easy access to financial lifelines;
    - 172 ii. World Bank approved and managed budgets regarding the mitigation of the effects of climate  
173 change and natural disasters;
  - 174 b. Countries whose funds are not readily available to implement the alternative energy to partake in the  
175 mitigation of harmful energy usage through a loan from an internationally accredited organization;
  - 176 c. Developing countries would have permission to create extra revenue despite their economic  
177 dispositions, ultimately enabling developmental enhancement and GDP growth.  
178  
179