



Code: GA2/1/1

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Strengthening International Strategies for Disaster Reduction

1 *Referencing* Article 29 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which emphasizes the responsibility every
2 Member State owes to the international community, and their responsibility to protect all citizens of the world,

3
4 *Stresses* A/RES/69/135, which emphasizes the reduction in order to fulfill all Member States' responsibility to
5 protect the lives of global citizens in all nations,

6
7 *Recognizing* the vital importance of strengthening international strategies for disaster reduction and the urgent need
8 for further expansion of preemptive measures for disaster response and preparation as explained in A/RES/68/103,

9
10 *Cognizant of* the immense advantages of technology such as the United Nations Platform for Space-based
11 Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) in disaster relief and preparation
12 with open data sharing stressing on alerting systems and telecommunication for efficient and effective relief
13 activities for disaster events,

14
15 *Reaffirming* our strong support for the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and making clear our
16 commitment to building upon these existing programs for combating disasters around the world and to promote a
17 culture of prevention,

18
19 *Recalling* the existence of UN funding structures for disaster prevention and relief including the World Bank,
20 International Monetary Fund, and ECOSOC as well as regional monetary bodies and funds responsible for
21 investment in disaster reduction and response such as the African Development Bank and the Community Disaster
22 Risk Reduction Fund,

23
24 *Deeply concerned with* the immense losses of life and resources from natural catastrophes worldwide - estimated at
25 1.74 million fatalities and \$4.2 trillion from 1980-2014, as determined by the Natural Catastrophe Service, in a Loss
26 Events Worldwide report,

27
28 *The General Assembly Second Committee,*

29
30 1. *Encourages* further funding for UN organizations focused on disaster reduction, such as United Nations Office
31 for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Aid (OCHA), in
32 order to:

33
34 a. expand the number of personnel with experience in coordinating disaster relief response within these
35 organizations, noting the indispensable nature of these personnel in saving lives;

36
37 b. increase the number of resources and in turn the relief capabilities for developing countries who strain
38 to recover from disasters;

39
40 2. *Expresses* its readiness to improve the methods of communication and coordination between the UN and
41 Member States affected by disasters, aware that effective distribution of relief and supplies provided by key
42 Member States is essential to an effective disaster response effort, also realizing that all Member States have
43 diverse needs within post disaster relief;

44
45 3. *Reiterates* the improvement of a sufficient set of communication among national governments and NGOs to
46 follow up with useful programs such as the World Economic Forum, Telecoms Sans Frontieres, and the
47 Multicenter Initial Rapid Assessment that supports communication in UN relief missions to identify the
48 recovery process, increase the speed of communication, and act in order to alleviate post disaster costs;

49

- 50 4. *Invites* the expansion of Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) focused on direct relief such as the World
51 Health Organization's Cluster System and the National Civil Protection Service in order to:
52
- 53 a. increase the efficiency of post disaster relief teams in terms of speed of response and organization of
54 resources;
 - 55
 - 56 b. focus their efforts on countries that follow a regional guideline and lack a national guideline that most
57 benefits that nation;
 - 58
 - 59 c. encourage the work of IGOs such as Norway's NORCAP, the Azerbaijan International Development
60 Agency, the Danish International Development Agency, and Canada's Disaster Assistance Response
61 Team;
 - 62
- 63 5. *Further encourages* the expansion of relief in preparation for the immediate relief during a disaster supported,
64 implemented, and overseen by the UNISDR in order to:
65
- 66 a. promote constant plans of action based on varying disaster events such as earthquakes, tsunamis, or
67 man made disasters such as the escape of a bioagent in order to enforce the resilience of societies;
 - 68
 - 69 b. promote emergency evacuation plans such as the plans implemented by the Occupational Safety and
70 Health Act;
 - 71
 - 72 c. set up and practice disaster avoidance at a designated time every other month through volunteers from
73 UNISDR or an NGO that works with such;
 - 74
 - 75 d. educate local citizens on the use and maintenance of modernized technology useful to predict disasters
76 or ease disaster relief in underdeveloped regions;
 - 77
- 78 6. *Supports* the discussion of strategies to address the needs of Refugees by the UN High Commissioner for
79 Refugees through the assistance of IGOs and NGOs along with individual Member States emphasizing the need
80 to protect the physical and mental health of IDPs through cooperation with existing health groups such as the
81 World Health Organization along with other international organizations;- 82

83 7. *Promotes* every state to strengthen their Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) through trainings of CSO leaders
84 through workshops to educate leaders to enact change in their communities and respond to emergency
85 situations.



Code: GA/1/2

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Strengthening International Strategies for Disaster Reduction

1 *Recognizing* the achievements of Hyogo Framework for Action, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Relief and
2 the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Japan 2015 aimed at disaster risk reduction and response,
3 but noting the need for the implementation of a stronger policy framework that encourages sustainable development
4 and addresses the needs of populations living in high risk areas,
5
6 *Desiring* the strengthening of the Sendai Framework in terms of both pre-disaster preparedness and post-disaster
7 response especially in regards to effectively applying international aid and taking into account the need for differing
8 regional responses,
9
10 *Guided* by UN-HABITAT's City Resilience Profiling Program, focused on providing the national and local
11 governments of Member States with the tools to measure and increase disaster preparedness,
12
13 *Encouraging* Member States to move towards more open lines of communication in the area of disaster reduction,
14
15 *Acknowledging* the lack of primary responders with adequate skills and training at the local level for emergency
16 situations and disasters, and the need for educational programs to further develop those skills,
17
18 *Noting* the pivotal role played by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) on both local and national levels of
19 disaster reduction,
20
21 *Aware* of the lack of a data base system that allows for the compilation of policies and technologies utilized by
22 Member States,
23
24 *Guided* by the World Bank's Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Program (DFRI), by providing Least Developed
25 Countries and Low Income Countries located in disaster-prone regions with technical assistance to design financial
26 resilience measures needed to prevent fiscal insolvency of these nations during the post-disaster recovery phase,
27
28 *Recalling* the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage (CIC), which has worked to
29 reduce nonpoint source pollution from non-state owned vessels by placing the liability for oil pollution damage on
30 the owner of the ship,
31
32 *Calling* attention to the successes of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Facility (CCRF) which has granted Small
33 Island Developing States stricken by natural disasters short-term liquidity required to begin immediate recovery
34 efforts without risking fiscal insolvency,
35
36 *Welcoming* the collaboration between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the World Food Programme in the
37 creation of the Weather Risk Management Facility, which works to pioneer research in best practices for weather
38 index-based insurance targeted at poor rural farmers,
39
40 *Deeply* concerned by the impact of natural disasters on human life, the mass displacement of people, and the dire
41 need for critical resources in emergency situations,
42
43 *Believing* in the mandate of the New Development Bank, which states that the bank will mobilize resources to build
44 infrastructure and sustainable development in emerging economies,
45
46 *Recalling* A/RES/69/135 of 2014 and the guiding principles of strengthening coordination of emergency
47 humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,
48
49 *The General Assembly Second Committee,*
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- 51 1. *Endorses* the establishment of regional committees, through the United Nations Office of Disaster Risk
52 Reduction, composed of Member States, NGOs, the WHO Regional Emergency and Humanitarian Action
53 Teams, and disaster and regional policy experts in order to create frameworks that address both disaster
54 prevention and response;
55
- 56 2. *Suggests* that these regional committees establish:
57
- 58 a. systems of early warning and disaster prevention through the use of technologies that are
59 affordable to the developing world including but not limited to accelerometers, radar systems,
60 ocean buoys, and seismographic devices;
 - 61
 - 62 b. infrastructural standards, like those of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development's
63 Housing Earthquake Safety Initiative, for future infrastructure development in high risk areas in
64 order to promote disaster resilience;
 - 65
 - 66 c. disaster response plans based on current technology and best practices implemented by other
67 countries;
 - 68
 - 69 d. additionally recommends that these regional committees release occasional reports detailing
70 disaster preparedness and preparation;
 - 71
 - 72 e. further recommends that Member States work in cooperation with UN-HABITAT's City
73 Resilience Profiling Program to increase the resilience of cities to the impact of natural and human
74 disasters;
 - 75
- 76 3. *Recommends* that Member States implement educational programs in order to inform its own aid workers
77 and emergency responders of their role in disaster risk management:
78
- 79 a. the topics covered in these educational programs will including, but are not limited to:
80
 - 81 i. evacuation procedures for natural and humanitarian disaster;
 - 82
 - 83 ii. proper use of first aid systems and disaster tool kits;
 - 84
 - 85 iii. food accessibility during and after disaster;
 - 86
 - 87 iv. detection of dangerous situations such as fallen power lines, broken gas lines, hidden land
88 mines, and other dangerous situations pertaining to natural and humanitarian disaster;
 - 89
 - 90 b. reconstruction processes post-disaster;
 - 91
 - 92 c. in the implementation of these educational programs Member States can consult NGOs, like the
93 International Medical Corps and International Rescue Committee, and request assistance in
94 creating educational programs and disseminating the information in order to foster further
95 cooperation and utilize the expertise of first responders;
 - 96
- 97 4. *Strongly* suggests the continued close cooperation between NGOs and Member States in order to establish
98 comprehensive disaster prevention and relief programs, but further recommends better coordination of
99 those efforts through:
100
- 101 a. the utilization of UN Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions in order to provide the
102 option to NGOs for the coordination of their efforts in order to prevent duplication and
103 contradiction within those efforts;
 - 104
 - 105 b. promoting the creation of NGO sponsored educational programs that will help to train local
106 officials in the skills necessary for disaster relief and prevention;

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- c. the use of aid donations efficiently, promptly, and effectively during disaster recovery and ensure that any funding appropriated by them is funneled to legitimate sources including recovery projects and aid programs;
 - d. increased transparency about Member State and NGO finances, sources of funding and expenditures, through the release of financial statements and audit reports;
 5. *Urges* the utilization of the PREVIEW program through UNEP for the collection of relevant information about high risk disaster areas and best practice disaster prevention and relief programs that:
 - a. identify and target more specific high-risk areas and danger zones with increased propensity for disasters in order best facilitate communication and action with relevant stakeholders;
 - b. establish clear protocols for inter-organizational and inter-state communication in order to better facilitate coordinated disaster response;
 - c. encourage each Member State to provide information about its disaster preparedness and emergency response plans for both first responders and reference by other Member States;
 6. *Suggests* relevant regional development banks design innovative mechanisms for crop insurance, and social safety nets for rural communities in disaster-prone regions;
 7. *Further* invites the International Trade Centre to help compound the progress of DRFI by simultaneously providing technical assistance to Least Developed Countries with the goal of adapting Member State trade policy to mitigate post-disaster recovery period by implementing specific emergency policies such as:
 - a. short-term easing of custom procedure for pertinent goods such as medicine, food, etc.;
 - b. pre-arrival processing for humanitarian goods;
 - c. short-term duty and tax free entry for humanitarian items and reconstruction materials;
 8. *Invites* the Sixth Committee to further explore the feasibility of adapting the International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage (CIC) to target man-made disasters related to industrial-based chemical pollution damage from privately owned enterprises and multinational corporations;
 9. *Requesting* further collaboration between high-risk member states and regional development banks towards the creation of region specific disaster relief programs modeled after the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Facility (CCRF);
 10. *Suggests* that Member States, with respect to their sovereignty, coordinate their national emergency alert systems with regional neighbors, to allow faster notification of officials those impacted by the disaster in order to better prepare for a regional response, specifically this would provide support to those who lack early warning systems and allow for more coordinated regional efforts;
 11. *Supports* the New Development Bank effort to create a monetary aid program in the Global South with the mission of rebuilding infrastructure that is more resilient to future disasters;
 12. *Suggests* that all Development Banks including the New Development Bank, The World Bank, and Regional Development Banks collaborate with the United Nations Development Programme to create reporting procedures for Monetary Aid Programmes.



Code: GA2/1/3

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Strengthening International Strategies for Disaster Reduction

1 *Recognizing A/RES/67/231*, which stresses the interconnectedness of the international community as well as the
2 importance of international cooperation when a Member State faces a disaster,

3
4 *Noting* that the use of education can improve disaster prevention and can excel global and regional contributions to
5 areas identified as high risk for potential disasters, as Principle 1 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and*
6 *Development* states that human beings, “are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature,”

7
8 *Recognizes* Member States’ ability to commit resources to preventing or, at the very least, limiting the effect
9 disasters have on economies globally; committing resources now is an economically intelligent decision as per the
10 *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2013*: in regards to flooding, the return on investment from 1
11 euro ranges from 160 to 400 euros; despite massive investment in reconstruction and efforts to improve
12 competitiveness, it had fallen to 47th place by 2010,

13
14 *Stressing*, in coordination with *A/RES/67/201*, the necessity of Member States lowering their carbon emissions in
15 order to ameliorate climate change and as a precautionary measure to lessen the frequency of disasters,

16
17 *Applauding* the many successes of the *Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)*, particularly the paradigm shift from
18 disaster response to disaster prevention, as well as its reinforcement that Member States must take primary
19 responsibility for implementing their own risk reduction strategies, along with *RES/69/209*, which reaffirms the
20 commitment to the HFA from 2005 to 2015,

21
22 *Recognizing* the HFA’s shortcomings, however hopeful that its successor, *RES/69/283*, also known as the *Sendai*
23 *Framework for Disaster Risk (SFDR)* can address these issues with its four priorities: to understand disaster risk, to
24 strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, to invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience and to
25 enhance disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and
26 reconstruction,

27
28 *Deeply concerned* that certain actions and practices of the international community have great impact upon natural
29 hazards, both short-term and long-term, which can potentially lead to natural disasters, and the impact that climate
30 change has on the prevalence of natural disasters, in relation to *A/RES/67/231*,

31
32 *Recalling* *A/RES/64/222*, *A/RES/67/196* and *A/RES/68/199*, which note the importance of cooperation between
33 developing states in order to facilitate further development, and the atmospheric chemical manipulation precedent
34 set by universities working with UN scientists, including the discover of a causal link between climate change and
35 harmful natural disasters, thereby both cutting back on Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and increasing the
36 utilization of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCS) in the environment,

37
38 *Further Recalling* the efforts made by the United Nations Framework *Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)*
39 and its conclusions on disaster risk reduction and climate change action, including mitigation and adaptation, seen as
40 an opportunity for a transformative shift towards more resilient development and economic security, as well as
41 noting the *Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Changes (IPCC)* Special Report on Extreme Events which
42 confirmed climate change as an issue already impacting factor of natural weather-related hazards,

43
44 *Guided by* the discussions of the 2015 UNFCCC, a “top-down, bottom-up” approach should be taken in regards to
45 climate change, considering that a bottom-up approach for disaster risk reduction begins with the treatment and
46 respect of the planet, as well as being mindful of climate change,

47
48 *Strongly affirming* that investment in Disaster Risk Reduction and climate change now is an opportunity to reduce
49 costs in the future and is a pressing economic and humanitarian priority,

50

51 *Recognizing the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) Conservation Strategy has been built up by*
52 *regional strategy,*
53
54 *Strongly affirming an international commitment to furthering development in Least Developed Countries (LDC's),*
55 *however emphasizing that all development should be undertaken in an environmentally responsible manner,*
56
57 *Recalling that UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) provides that member states*
58 *should protect climate systems with the differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,*
59
60 *Recognizing UNFCCC's 10th plenary meeting in 2014 on the importance of mobilizing funding from a variety of*
61 *sources, both public and private, including sources of finances,*
62
63 *Noting domestic and regional initiatives such as the Spanish National Civil Emergency Planning Committee*
64 *(NCEPC) which provides and implements resources in situations of emergency, or Ministry of Water and Irrigation*
65 *(MWI) which stresses the need for improved water resources management,*
66
67 *The General Assembly Second Committee,*
68
69 1. Respectfully urges Member States to submit biannual reports to said Member States' assigned regional DRM
70 (Disaster Risk Management) cooperation mechanism on the implementations of domestic and local initiatives
71 regarding climate change initiatives and public policy:
72
73 a. note that reports should include actions of domestic policies, driving processes, and budget allocations
74 for all the different aspects of disaster risk reduction in aspects pertaining to climate change;
75
76 b. allows established DRMs to act as a regional central body and point of contact for the general
77 committee in relation to member state participation where responsibility, and member nation
78 accountability is collected and reported and supervised;
79
80 2. Encourages the creation of a committee responsible for the development of an *Environmental and Disaster*
81 *Awareness Week (EDAW):*
82
83 a. invites the *United Nations Department of Public Information*, further, the *Media Accreditation and*
84 *Liaison Unit (MALU)* to coordinate and over see the implementation of the working committee for an
85 awareness week;
86
87 b. follow suggestions made by the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*;
88
89 c. this week of awareness may be funded by willing organizations within the private sector or voluntary
90 contributions of Member States, including, but not limited to, supplies, monetary contributions, and
91 educators;
92
93 d. respect the sovereignty of nations as these nations have the choice to participate in the program and
94 distribute materials and supplies to local communities:
95
96 i. work in coordination with the intergovernmental research group developed after the *Sendai*
97 *Framework* was agreed upon, acknowledging which locations are deemed at risk for disasters;
98
99 ii. any supplies distributed to receiving countries may be earmarked, defined nations distributing aid
100 where they please, for the locations deemed;
101
102 e. note that the distribution of materials will be done solely through commitments made by Member
103 States requesting to participate;
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105 f. distribution of materials will be limited when it is found that participating nations are found abusing
106 materials;

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3. Recognizing the importance for a formative and comprehensive financial approach to funding this environmental database, we call upon the initiatives of the *International Monetary Fund* (IMF) in coordination with the ground level approach of the educational initiatives established through the *multinational corporations* (MNCs) that preside within;
 4. Initiates the implementation of a bilateral incentives program for both ends of the global and local allocated levels of the three-tiered system approach;
 5. Establishes the precedent of the incentive exchange eminence through the use of the *World Bank's* previous successes in LDC institutional infrastructure development;
 6. Further mitigates the use and dependency on voluntary member states through use of private non-governmental organizations;
 7. Urges Member States for strategic planning, frameworks for protection, and sustainable management of natural resources in deserts and in areas affected by desertification, at the same time supporting the *United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification* (UNCCD);
 8. Ensuring the continued viability of our shared global environment, there exists a necessity to implement an initiative to decrease global carbon emissions and shift the equilibrium balance of the atmosphere as it is in its current state in order to prevent the continued devastating decline of the planet and its precipitous climate catastrophes. The initiative for this endeavor shall be approached through a multilateral scientific research and development reserve, in direct conjunction with its previously established database initiative:
 - a. establishing such a reserve will pool its research internationally with top level institutions in new technologies to ensure the reduction of carbon emissions and ozone depletion, in a direct contrary to the largely pro-alternative energy efforts in present initiatives, and will be overseen by the current staff of impartial UN scientists;
 - b. encouraging the *UN International Panel on Climate Change* to take on the initiative to seek out and hire new personnel who would continue the research initiatives held within this scientific reserve and development team;
 - c. incorporating the backing and support of petroleum-based economically oriented member states and NGOs;
 9. Expresses its hope towards meeting the goal of \$100 billion a year by 2020 to address the needs of developing countries:
 - a. invites member nations and private stakeholders to understand and assess the financial needs of developing countries;
 - b. further wishes these entities to deliver and appropriate raised funding that will be provided to developing countries, taking into account and prioritizing their urgent and immediate needs and severity under the classifications laid out by the UNFCCC;
 10. Suggests that Member States establish limitations on infrastructure in disaster prone areas based on the analysis of collective data on climate change bolstering important structures such as schools and hospitals, which can act as a pivotal point for alerting people, performing assessments and enabling communication;
 11. Encourages the *United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction* (UNISDR) to continue to work in tandem with the *United Nations Environmental Program* (UNEP), focusing efforts on decreasing environmental vulnerability to hazards, naturally occurring, or man-made to:

- 162 a. acknowledge the link between climate change and desertification, dry lands, flooding around the
163 globe;
164
- 165 b. further note the damage done to the environment by man-made factors including but not limited to oil
166 spills, deforestation, and the negative effects of human waste on environmental components;
167
- 168 12. Advocates that all Member States shift focus from disaster relief to disaster prevention, assessing the problems
169 which may foster disaster and prescribing preventative measures, as emphasized by the Sendai framework,
170 additionally encouraging Member States to reaffirm commitments and support of the *United Nations*
171 *Framework on Climate Change* (UNFCCC):
172
- 173 a. acknowledge the need to combat climate change and reduce natural disasters both in frequency and in
174 magnitude;
175
- 176 b. focus on climate change as a long-term strategy for disaster prevention and risk reduction, rather than
177 only focusing on the aftermath of a disaster which is a short-term strategy;
178
- 179 c. endorse an effort of spreading environmental consciousness in further reversing damage as a result of
180 climate change;
181
- 182 13. *Suggests* Member States to incorporate “green economy” which encourages the production and development
183 environment friendly products related but not limited to the production of renewable energy, water treatment
184 technologies, waste management, and environmental and atmospheric monitoring instruments that promotes
185 reducing ecological scarcities and environmental risks which leads to disasters;
186
- 187 14. *Suggest* Member States to promote and further strengthen existing data sharing platforms like *United Nations*
188 *Globe Pulse* and emphasize to create a coherence in the procedure of information handling and sharing among
189 the participating countries with reasonable limitations:
190
- 191 a. noting the importance of dialog between the member states recommends they orchestrate an annual
192 conference on science and technology related to disaster risk reduction and climate change;
193
- 194 b. acknowledges that climate change is a complex issue owing to various diverse factors, which
195 necessitates an analysis of the issue on many different levels.



Code: GA2/1/4

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Strengthening International Strategies for Disaster Reduction

1 *Applauding* the post-disaster objectives and urging all Member States to continue making this progress through
2 committing themselves to the Sendai Framework and fully supporting Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda
3 for Sustainable Development and specifically its Disaster Risk Reduction in the Post-2015 Development Agenda,
4
5 *Affirming* the inviolability of state sovereignty as stated in Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations with
6 specific emphasis on policies undertaken by the global community when approaching legal framework to reduce
7 fraud, waste, and corruption of a disaster,
8
9 *Notices* the necessity of open channels of information, and the establishment of an internationally accepted database
10 that addresses disaster response,
11
12 *Recognizing* the lack of resources and capacities, such as but not limited to, advanced early detection technologies
13 for earthquake warnings, large scale flood mitigation construction for disaster mitigation, first response, relief, and
14 long term recovery,
15
16 *Keeping in mind* the Guiding Principles for Public-Private Collaboration for Humanitarian Action that has set forth
17 key measures to best facilitate partnerships between relevant government and non-governmental organizations
18 (NGOs) to comprehensively address humanitarian issues,
19
20 *Acknowledging* the necessity of funding operatives in order to realize the potential of global disaster risk reduction,
21
22 *Noting with concern* the rising urgency of disaster risk reduction due to urbanization and rapid population growth,
23
24 *Fully believing* the scope of natural disasters may affect all Member States and emphasizing the necessity of creating
25 inclusive plans that empower all members of society to combat disasters,
26
27 *Reaffirming* the belief that disaster reduction begins with educating the public (A/RES/69/283), and emphasizes
28 increased investment in preparedness for humanitarian crises through global communication channels
29 (A/RES/2015/14),
30
31 *Realizing* that the spread of disease is accelerated due to a lack of education on the spread of disease, low hygiene
32 standards, and a lack of health care capacity after a natural disaster occurs,
33
34 *Noting* the importance of effective cooperation between Member States in order to facilitate an efficient and
35 immediate response to disasters as stated in the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,
36
37 *Supports* the universal database focused on climate change for disaster prevention built by Member States for
38 Member States,
39
40 *Recalling* the work of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in post disaster relief, particularly in
41 regards to combating land erosion, land reclamation, and strengthening water infrastructure,
42
43 *Acknowledging* Sendai Framework's position on Member State infrastructure and their ability to cope with a
44 disaster,
45
46 *The General Assembly Second Committee,*
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- 49 1. *Emphasizes* the importance of global cooperation on the issue of disaster risk reduction, and further invites
50 fellow Member States to act in accordance with the Home Abroad Lead Operation (HALO) which was created
51 to combat manmade and natural disasters, as well as assist in relief operations;
52
- 53 2. *Fully conscious* of state sovereignty, HALO commits to the protection of the rights of individual Member
54 States;
55
- 56 3. *Cognizant of* the importance of information sharing, and the formation of an overseeing body of the top disaster
57 experts worldwide to provide advice and consultation to countries at risk of disaster:
58
- 59 a. with regard to the overseeing body lends individualized advice to any State at risk to predict future
60 disasters, and suggest ways to reduce an area's risk, and do so through the framework of multi-national
61 corporations (MNCs);
62
- 63 b. while encouraging all participating NGOs and actors to be transparent in conducting activities and to
64 remain transparent at all times;
65
- 66 c. also recognizing the success of the preexisting UN data-sharing networks in incorporating and
67 analyzing Volunteer and Technical Community (V&TC) as well as disaster-affected community data
68 flows;
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- 70 4. *Establishes* the need for technological advancement in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and developing
71 states, in order to prepare and protect themselves for natural disasters, but acknowledging the necessity for
72 educational reforms and structures to be considered:
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- 74 d. highlighting the potential improvements of the database network that will be discussed in a later
75 Committee conference;
76
- 77 e. while emphasizing the priority of funding LDCs;
78
- 79 f. further recommending Member States to create a combination of disaster mitigation technology and
80 specialized disaster relief in a globalized effort to combat natural disasters from preventative and
81 ongoing standpoints;
82
- 83 5. *Encourages* a knowledge-exchange workshop system through organized collaboration and increased
84 communication between affected Member States and international NGOs to facilitate specialized training:
85
- 86 a. of sharing disaster reduction strategies by hosting voluntary guided tours of Member States that have
87 previously demonstrated effective disaster reduction policies;
88
- 89 b. regional conferences, hosted by consenting Member States in proximity of affected regions to facilitate
90 personal relationships between state officials, regional UN representatives and NGOs;
91
- 92 c. specific thematic disaster conferences to be rotated biannually between the United Nations offices at
93 Geneva and New York;
94
- 95 d. services provided for NGOs working locally in the affected regions to have a direct line of
96 communication with the Member States in attendance;
97
- 98 6. *Invites* any Member States that are willing and economically able to procure funding for the operational costs of
99 the conference and other related costs that may arise:
100
- 101 a. suggesting that all resources are used efficiently and effectively by having representatives from the
102 contributing Member State to oversee how the resources are used;
103

- 104 b. recommending multilateral cooperation between Member States, local charities and NGOs, to help
105 distribute aid when disasters occur within their state;
106
- 107 c. recognizing the importance for Member States to consider donating aid to organizations such as the
108 World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery;
109
- 110 d. further encouraging private entities and corporations to donate, at their own discretion;
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- 112 7. *Emphasizes* the need for civil emergency plans to direct special attention towards activities with the goal of
113 preventing mortality including but not limited to:
114
- 115 a. focusing existing civil emergency plans on counteracting mortality stemming from weather extremes,
116 while acknowledging that climate change is one of the main contributors to the severity of natural
117 disasters;
118
- 119 b. combining civil emergency plans of regional blocs prone to multinational weather extreme disasters in
120 an effort to increase transparency of emergency response procedures and promote international
121 cooperation and collaboration for the purpose of reducing catastrophe fatalities;
122
- 123 8. *Reminds* Member States that all sectors of society should be included in disaster reduction education and legal
124 frameworks through:
125
- 126 a. cherishing gender equality and emphasizing the special needs of children and the elderly in disaster
127 reduction, by encouraging Member States to implement accessible and comprehensive disaster-based
128 educational programs at their own discretion;
129
- 130 b. suggesting that Member States aim to protect property, health, livelihood, and productive assets, as
131 well as cultural and environment assets, while promoting and protecting all human rights, including the
132 right to development during the disaster reduction;
133
- 134 c. the improvement of refugee living conditions, which originate from both manmade and natural
135 disasters, and further calls for the sharing of expertise and initiatives that are provided for natural
136 disasters to also be utilized in other humanitarian crisis;
137
- 138 9. *Further encourages* the international community to expand the culture of disaster preparedness and awareness
139 by implementing educational programs that focus on understanding causes of disaster, preparedness and
140 immediate action, as well as possible reconstruction efforts and coping strategies for communities led by:
141
- 142 a. appropriate UN regional organizations;
143
- 144 b. public/private partnerships;
145
- 146 c. grassroots organizations;
147
- 148 10. *Advises* the increased use of the World Health Organization's education programs amongst Member States to
149 vastly improve hygiene by:
150
- 151 a. improving awareness about the prevention and spread of infectious diseases through voluntary
152 educational training and health care services to underprivileged people in collaboration with the
153 MOTEC-Life programme;
154
- 155 b. understanding that the spread of disease is mainly attributed to a poor understanding of proper hygiene
156 standards and has disastrous implications in regards to exponential death rates and a hindering in
157 population growth;
158

- 159 11. *Welcomes* the creation of regional congregations of immediate natural disasters reaction while keeping in mind
160 the position of each Member State:
161
162 a. funding for these congregations be provided by the participating Member States of each region;
163
164 b. timely dispatch of aid-providing manpower from neighboring countries at the full discretion of the host
165 country in a situation of a natural disaster in encouraged;
166
167 c. neighboring states should establish closer ties and joint training to maximize the efficiency of
168 collaboration;
169
- 170 12. *Appeals* for the creation of an international unified database compiled by all states, UN organizations, and
171 NGOs in which climate, geographic, disaster preparation, and relief information is stored from any Member
172 State which can obtain needed data, including:
173
174 a. the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) acting as the primary overseer of the
175 unified database;
176
177 b. participating Member States, UN bodies, and NGOs are to consistently updating relevant information
178 in real time at their discretion, preferably in a periodic fashion, in the spirit of the collective betterment
179 of humanity;
180
181 c. Member States, who are invited to use this network of information in order to formulate informed
182 natural disaster strategies, man-made disasters, and humanitarian emergencies regarding weather
183 patterns and timely rescue strategies from past disasters;
184
185 d. the Secretary General, who is encouraged to hold a conference to establish a standard of data collection
186 and input as well as the method of data evaluation;
187
188 e. the use of early warning natural disaster detection technologies, such as the United Nations Platform
189 for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) is
190 vital to ensure that states are warned about concurrent natural disasters;
191
192 f. participating Member States and are welcomed to discuss funding at the aforementioned conference;
193
- 194 13. *Encourages* the collaboration of Food and Agricultural Organization in developing Member States'
195 infrastructure management to mitigate disasters by:
196
197 a. discover methods to largely increase the overall capacity of water infrastructure to reduce the risk,
198 depth, and duration of future flooding;
199
200 b. implement the addition of river-floodplain systems that will sustain river and watershed management
201 ultimately benefiting flood-risk reduction by emphasizing green infrastructure and agricultural
202 techniques;
203
- 204 14. *Emphasizes* the importance that all Member States continue to develop national and regional platforms to
205 communicate with the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction Secretariat and continues to encourage
206 stronger regional cooperation to avoid conflicting humanitarian aid strategies after the occurrence of
207 transnational natural disasters.



Code: GA2/1/5

Committee: General Assembly Second Committee

Topic: Strengthening International Strategies for Disaster Reduction

1 *Recognizing* the importance of economic and social stability especially as it pertains to countries crippled by
2 humanitarian disasters as recognized in A/RES/69/243 and A/RES/46/182,

3
4 *Reaffirming* the commitment that was set by the United Nations Post-2015 Millennium Goals, which was accepted
5 as targets by the World Bank, of promoting sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth that will have a
6 side effect of increasing the resilience of communities to all disasters,

7
8 *Recalling* Article 2 of the Second Committee's resolution entitled "International Year of Microcredit", which
9 highlights the correlation between distribution of small loans and improved socio-economic conditions in LICs
10 (A/RES/53/197) which then improves communities' resilience in response to disasters,

11
12 *Affirming* the role that international organizations play in the creation and development of small loan related
13 services, as stipulated in A/RES/68/279

14
15 *Acknowledging* that disasters of all kinds can play both direct and indirect roles in the destabilization of a country's
16 economic capabilities and social structures,

17
18 *Reemphasizing* the importance of state sovereignty during humanitarian crises as referenced in Article 2 of the UN
19 Charter,

20
21 *Recognizing* the inadequate infrastructure present in LDC's required to establish a path towards sustainable natural
22 disaster relief and the substantial improvements that can be made to infrastructure as recognized in A/RES/60/195,

23
24 *Deeply concerned with* the wellbeing of persons displaced by natural disasters living in slum-like conditions, and
25 persons affected by the ongoing problem of urbanization and the subsequent economic ramifications faced by
26 Member States in which these persons reside (A/RES/68/239),

27
28 *Understanding* the necessity of "all of society inclusive" approaches to disaster risk reduction that encourages
29 underutilized actors, such as women, children, minority groups, and impoverished communities to take a more
30 significant role,

31
32 *Deeply concerned with* how long it takes for funds to reach Member States stricken by disasters,

33
34 *The General Assembly Second Committee,*

- 35
36 1. *Supports* NGOs, Member States, and other government organizations who commit resources to assist LDCs
37 who request guidance and counsel to find ways to prevent humanitarian disasters and create more resilient,
38 stable societies for recovery from existing and future disaster, and applauds LDCs who have received and
39 requested guidance and counsel through the:
40
41 a. emphasis on the reduction of the risk of escalating tensions potentially leading to armed conflict;
42
43 b. implementation and creation of plans that limit the impact urbanization, the regulation of pollution, and
44 other population growth issues has on Member States' societies;
45
46 c. creation of early warning systems for humanitarian disasters;
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48 2. *Invites* Member States to incorporate actors that are disproportionately affected by humanitarian and natural
49 disasters, such as minority groups, children, and impoverished communities in the planning of disaster
50 reduction by methods that:

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- a. encourage increasing disaster awareness via the education of minority groups, children, and impoverished communities through multilateral cooperation with other Member States and NGOs to create comprehensive strategies for the implementation of education regarding disaster risk reduction;
 - b. invites the pursuit of guidelines established by the ISDR's Policy and Practical Guidelines for Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive, and refining these guidelines to adapt them to each underutilized actor individually;
3. *Invites* all Member States to pursue multilateral trade agreements with relevant Member States, requesting the aid of the WTO as necessary, as a means of reducing the risk of conflicts leading to humanitarian disasters, as these trade agreements will foster positive relationships amongst all involved giving them a common economic interest in preserving the peace, while reiterating the importance of state sovereignty;
4. *Invites* NGOs and Member States to provide additional and more effective programs to assist persons displaced by natural disasters and persons affected by growing urbanization by the:
- a. provision of resources and raw materials necessary for improving infrastructure;
 - b. creation of training programs for the purpose of giving displaced persons the knowledge and tools necessary to rebuild and further develop their communities, thus alleviating financial burdens on Member States and improving the resilience of these communities for future disasters;
 - c. designation of experts to assist with logistics for the management of problems created in highly-urbanized areas and the rehabilitation of areas impacted by natural disasters;
5. *Further requests* the UNDESA to cooperate with Member States through UN Technical Cooperation to implement LDC infrastructure planning, similar to the UNDESA's regional infrastructure planning;
6. *Encourages* NGOs and local banking agencies to provide loans and small loans to citizens in states disproportionately affected by disasters to stimulate local businesses that provide disaster relief in the region, and moreover guarantee their dedication to countries suffering or recovering from disasters post immediate crisis as increasing the number and economic success of these small businesses will not only provide employment opportunities but will also add resources to address disasters, bearing in mind the following considerations:
- a. additional business and increased employment opportunities will create stronger economies;
 - b. the involvement of the UN Capital Development Fund through loans will only be provided to countries that ask for assistance, to respect the sovereignty of all Member States;
7. *Encourages* any financial institution to give new loans and funding to be directed to the following industries: food industry, information and technology industry, construction industry, and the medical sector for the following reasons:
- a. food industry: to improve and increase efficiency in the existing network to provide the production, distribution and stockpiling of required nourishment for the victims in the event of a disaster:
 - i. businesses in the food industry, such as distribution companies and restaurants, can help reduce the risks of disasters as they provide food security;
 - ii. food security is essential for the reduction of the consequences and the affects, both short and long term, for the general population as it prevents the disaster from becoming far worse than their immediate effects;

- 106 b. information and technology sector: provides the intelligence and the communication networks required
107 during the preparation, duration, and aftermath of a disaster. Current regions that lack those industries
108 have significant difficulty in gathering the intelligence necessary to prepare and address disasters and
109 the necessary communication networks, such as technology that permits the search and rescue of
110 survivors under debris in the event of an earthquake;
111
- 112 c. construction industry: builds structures and infrastructure required for the preparation, duration, and
113 aftermath of a disaster along with aiding in the removal of debris. Structures and other preventive
114 constructions, need to withstand the physical strains of disasters;
115
- 116 d. health sector: provides the medical supplies and personnel required to treat individuals and victims
117 during the preparation, duration, and aftermath of disasters. The well-developed medical sector is
118 essential for providing necessary treatment in times of crisis, as it will need to cope with the urgency of
119 a disaster;
120
- 121 8. *Suggests* in cases where capital markets are unavailable, the World Bank groups could aid Member States at
122 their request in fostering the development of banks already present within states to further develop capital
123 markets in regions that currently lack capital access within LDCs in order to promote key industries including
124 the industries recommended above;
125
- 126 9. *Encourages* the use of preexisting regional trading blocks to deploy emergency response teams in the event of
127 natural disasters by providing training methods specific to the disaster, similar to that of the Swedish Civil
128 Contingency Agency (SCCA);
129
- 130 10. *Invites* the collaboration of the SCCA and similar organizations to assist in the development of preexisting
131 regional trading blocks by providing additional resources such as sandbags and water pumps to areas currently
132 experiencing or affected by natural disasters;
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- 134 11. *Expresses* its hope for Member States to receive immediate relief funding through the Central Emergency
135 Response Fund to ensure relief is provided as soon as possible.