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Agenda item 86

Protection of persons in the event of disasters

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 15 December 2025

[on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/80/456, para. 10)]

80/169. United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters

The General Assembly,

Having considered chapter IV of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-eighth session,¹ which contains the draft articles on protection of persons in the event of disasters,

Recalling that the International Law Commission decided to recommend the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters,²

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, of 1970,³

Emphasizing the continuing importance of the codification and progressive development of international law, as referred to in Article 13, paragraph 1 (a), of the Charter,

Recalling its resolutions 71/141 of 13 December 2016, 73/209 of 20 December 2018, 76/119 of 9 December 2021 and 79/128 of 4 December 2024, as well as its decisions 75/526 of 15 December 2020 and 78/516 of 7 December 2023,

Recalling also the number of suggestions for improvements to the draft articles made by States, including during the deliberations in the working group on protection

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/71/10).*

² *Ibid.*, chap. IV, sect. E.1.

³ Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.



of persons in the event of disasters at the seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions of the General Assembly,

Noting with concern the increasing number of disasters in the world, as well as their intensity and impact on affected populations,

Stressing once again the need for a comprehensive global legal regime to better address the protection of persons in the event of disasters, and having considered the feasibility of developing an international convention,

Recalling that, in its resolution 79/128, it decided to elaborate and conclude a legally binding instrument on the protection of persons in the event of disasters, without prejudice to the legal effects of any particular provisions contained therein, by the end of 2027 at the latest, at the dates and location and in accordance with the modalities to be determined by the General Assembly at its eightieth session,

Recalling also, in this regard, that the Government of the Philippines has expressed its interest in hosting a United Nations conference of plenipotentiaries on protection of persons in the event of disasters,

1. *Decides* to convene the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters, to meet for three weeks from 25 January to 12 February 2027 in Manila, and, if necessary, for a further two weeks in August 2027, to elaborate and conclude a legally binding instrument on the protection of persons in the event of disasters, without prejudice to the legal effects of any particular provisions contained therein;

2. *Also decides* to convene a preparatory committee for the Conference, to meet from 31 August to 4 September 2026, to refer the consolidated text including the draft articles and the proposals submitted by Governments, prepared at the resumed session of the Sixth Committee held in accordance with resolution 79/128, to the Conference, to decide on the question of the participation of stakeholders other than those referred to in paragraph 9, based on a list prepared by the Secretariat, with due regard to the principles of transparency and equitable geographical representation, and whose work is relevant to the Conference, and to discuss the organization and methods of work of the Conference, including the rules of procedure, with a view to making recommendations thereon to the Conference, taking into account the importance of promoting consensus in the Preparatory Committee and on the final results of the work of the Conference, requests the Secretary-General to prepare proposals and to bring the proposals and the list referred to above to the attention of Member States well in advance for their consideration and to the Preparatory Committee, and decides that, upon completion of its mandate, the Preparatory Committee shall report directly to the Conference;

3. *Refers* the consolidated text to the Conference for its consideration, together with the commentaries to the draft articles prepared by the International Law Commission, as well as the written comments and observations of Governments, all the views expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee on this topic, while noting the report of the working group of the Sixth Committee convened at the seventy-seventh and seventy-eighth sessions, and the recommendation of the Commission;

4. *Decides* that the rules of procedure of the General Assembly shall apply provisionally to the procedure of the Conference until otherwise agreed by the Conference;

5. *Also decides* that the Conference shall exhaust every effort in good faith to reach agreement on substantive matters by consensus;

6. *Further decides* that the Conference will be undertaken in an open and transparent manner, with a view to promoting universal adherence, and emphasizes the need to ensure the widest possible and effective participation, including, in particular, of developing countries, in the Conference;

7. *Decides* that the Conference and the Preparatory Committee shall be open to all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, and requests the Secretary-General to invite those States to participate in the Conference;

8. *Also decides* that the Conference and the Preparatory Committee shall be open to observers having received a standing invitation to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly, on the understanding that they shall participate in the Conference and the Preparatory Committee in accordance with the rights and privileges conferred upon them by the Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to invite them to the Conference, as well as to invite, as observers to the Conference, representatives of interested regional intergovernmental organizations and other interested international bodies;

9. *Further decides* that attendance at the Preparatory Committee and the Conference as observers will also be opened to relevant non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in accordance with the provisions of Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996, on the understanding that their participation means attending formal meetings, receiving copies of the official documents, making their materials available to delegates and addressing the meetings, through a limited number of their representatives, as appropriate;

10. *Invites* the States referred to in paragraph 7 above to include as far as possible among their representatives experts competent in the field to be considered;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to arrange for the attendance at the Conference, as an expert, of the Special Rapporteur of the International Law Commission on the protection of persons in the event of disasters;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General of the Conference to serve as focal point within the Secretariat for providing support to the organization of the Conference;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Conference and the Preparatory Committee with the necessary assistance for the performance of their work, including secretariat services and the provision of essential background information and relevant documents, including summary records and United Nations media coverage, and to arrange for support to be provided by the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat;

14. *Recognizes* the importance of ensuring the availability of adequate resources to ensure the widest possible and effective participation in the Conference, and, accordingly, invites Member States, international financial institutions, donor agencies, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and natural and juridical persons to make earmarked financial contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General for the Office of Legal Affairs to support the promotion of international law, and authorizes the Secretary-General to disburse funds from such contributions to that trust fund for the purposes of assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in attending the Conference, through the provision of daily subsistence allowance in addition to defraying the costs of economy-class travel,

while limiting requests for assistance from the trust fund to one delegate per State for each session of the Conference;

15. *Decides* that the Sixth Committee shall resume its session from 6 to 10 April 2026, within the framework of a working group of the Committee, in accordance with resolution [79/128](#);

16. *Also decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session an item entitled “United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters”.

*64th plenary meeting
15 December 2025*