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## Seventy-fifth session

Agenda item 19 (c)

Sustainable development: disaster risk reduction

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 21 December 2020

[on the report of the Second Committee ([A/75/457/Add.3](#), para. 7)]

### 75/216. Disaster risk reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution [74/218](#) of 19 December 2019 and all previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also its resolution [73/230](#) of 20 December 2018 on the effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon and all previous relevant resolutions, and recalling further the decision on this subject matter taken in decision 74/537 B of 11 August 2020,

Recalling further the Sendai Declaration<sup>1</sup> and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>2</sup>

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>3</sup> Agenda 21,<sup>4</sup> the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,<sup>5</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>6</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>7</sup> and reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex I.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., annex II.

<sup>3</sup> Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., annex II.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution [S-19/2](#), annex.

<sup>6</sup> Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid., resolution 2, annex.



Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>8</sup> in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

*Reaffirming further* the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>9</sup> and recognizing the linkages between disaster risk reduction and sustainable urban development,

*Recognizing* the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

*Reiterating* the call in the Sendai Framework for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact this year and in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life, food insecurity, water-related challenges, displacement, humanitarian needs and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, and which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular that of developing countries,

*Recognizing* that disaster risk is increasingly complex and systemic and that hazards can trigger each other with cascading impacts across sectors and geographies, as well as at the local, national, regional and global levels, and that the interrelation of risks across multiple dimensions and scales and potential unintended negative consequences should inform development policies and investments, emphasizing that these policies should be oriented towards building resilience and achieving sustainability and the Sustainable Development Goals, and recalling in this regard the findings contained in the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>10</sup> the *Global Sustainable Development Report* and

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<sup>8</sup> Resolution [66/288](#), annex.

<sup>9</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>10</sup> [E/2019/68](#).

the 2019 *Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction*, and stressing the importance of an integrated understanding of disaster risk in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement<sup>11</sup> and the Sendai Framework,

*Recognizing also* the importance of promoting policies and planning that build resilience and reduce displacement risk in the context of disasters, including through transboundary cooperation,

*Noting* that the El Niño phenomenon has a recurring character and can lead to extensive natural hazards with the potential to seriously affect humankind, and recalling that the peak of the 2015/16 El Niño phenomenon was comparable in strength to the 1982/83 and 1997/98 events and, therefore, one of the strongest on record, and affected more than 60 million people during 2015 and 2016, in particular in developing countries, with significant short- and long-term impacts on the health of individuals, the economy and food production locally, regionally and globally, particularly affecting people whose livelihood depends on agriculture, fisheries and livestock activities,

*Noting with great concern* the threat to human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as the severe disruption to societies and economies and the devastating impact on lives and livelihoods, and that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the pandemic, reaffirming the ambition to get back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by designing sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to help to reduce the risk of future shocks, and recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

*Recognizing* that it is urgent and critical to anticipate, plan for and reduce disaster risk, expressing deep concern at the devastating impacts of COVID-19 on sustainable development, which have deepened vulnerabilities to disasters and exposure to hazards and have highlighted the urgency of implementing the Sendai Framework as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, and noting in this regard that recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic will provide opportunities for and should be accompanied by policies and focused action to understand disaster risk, strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhance disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction, as well as to address the underlying drivers of disaster risk and build resilience across systems, integrate systemic risk management and strengthen multisectoral and multi-hazard approaches to disaster risk reduction and support sustainable and inclusive recovery, addressing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk,

*Recalling* the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

*Recognizing* climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and that the adverse effects of climate change, as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility, and in this regard acknowledging the internationally agreed outcomes adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>12</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

*Recognizing also that disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change and are increasing in frequency and intensity, significantly impede progress towards sustainable development,*

*Reaffirming the Paris Agreement, and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,*

*Recalling the holding of the 2019 Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary-General on 23 September, and noting the multi-partner initiatives and commitments presented during the Summit,*

*Looking forward to the preparatory meetings leading to the fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, to be held in Qatar in 2022, to raise ambition and accelerate action to reduce disaster risk in the least developed countries,*

*Highlighting the synergies between the implementation of the Sendai Framework, the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement,*

*Noting with concern the findings contained in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, *Global Warming of 1.5°C*, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, noting with concern also the findings contained in the special report of the Panel on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems, entitled *Climate Change and Land*, and noting with concern further the findings contained in the special report of the Panel entitled *The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate*,*

*Stressing the urgent need to address the unprecedented global decline in biodiversity, recalling with concern the findings of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and in this regard welcoming the summit on biodiversity held on 30 September 2020 and looking forward to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in China in 2021, which will adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework,*

*Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation, in the face of disasters, weather-related hazards, including those driven by natural climate cycles such as the El Niño Southern Oscillation, and the adverse effects of climate change, to estimate and prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response, early action and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to enhance resilience to their impacts, and recognizing in this regard the importance of developing risk-informed strategies, risk finance tools, including forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms and coordinated multi-hazard early warning systems, including timely risk communication at the local, national and regional levels,*

*Recognizing that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, which often greatly exceed their capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should*

also be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

*Recalling* that the Sendai Framework applies to risks of small-scale and large-scale, frequent and infrequent, sudden- and slow-onset disasters caused by natural or human-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological and biological hazards and risks,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [74/218](#);<sup>13</sup>

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;

3. *Reiterates its call for* the prevention of new and the reduction of existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political, financial and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience;

4. *Stresses* the urgent need to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events, and in this regard further urges Member States to continue engaging in adaptation planning processes and to enhance cooperation in disaster risk reduction;

5. *Underlines* the need to address the economic, social and environmental impacts of disasters, many of which are exacerbated by climate change, and emphasizes the need for action at all levels to enhance efforts to build resilience through, *inter alia*, the sustainable management of ecosystems to reduce the impacts and costs of disasters;

6. *Recalls* the launch of the Coalition for Disaster-Resilient Infrastructure, the Risk-Informed Early Action Partnership and the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative, and takes note of the Year of Action launched by the Global Commission on Adaptation that will culminate in the 2021 Climate Adaptation Summit;

7. *Recognizes* that in some cases the use of public debt and renewed external borrowing to absorb the impact of a disaster could lead to higher debt servicing for developing countries and constrain their growth and their capacity to invest in long-term resilience-building, and further acknowledges that, with each new disaster, financial vulnerabilities may grow and domestic response capacities may weaken;

8. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to work towards the achievement of the global targets adopted in the Sendai Framework;

9. *Recognizes* progress made in achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework and that the development and implementation of risk-informed strategic plans, policies, programmes and investments and national and local disaster risk reduction strategies are essential for sustainable development and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>14</sup>

<sup>13</sup> [A/75/226](#).

<sup>14</sup> See resolution [70/1](#).

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of developing multi-hazard strategies at the local, national, subregional, regional and international levels, in line with the Sendai Framework, that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of the El Niño phenomenon, while recognizing ongoing national initiatives by affected countries to strengthen their capacities;

11. *Stresses* that, during neutral El Niño and La Niña years, it is critical to prepare for, build resilience to and reduce the risks of the next event, including through integrated plans, and calls upon the international community to provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries affected by the El Niño phenomenon, prioritizing resources to developing countries;

12. *Expresses concern* that the current pace of action is not fast enough to meet the target (e) deadline of the Sendai Framework by the end of 2020, and thus urges States to accelerate progress and allocate the resources necessary to support the development and implementation of inclusive and participatory national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, in line with the Sendai Framework, with a particular focus on local strategies and programmes, to promote coherence and integration with sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategies, including national adaptation plans, to include the objective of preparing to build back better in disaster risk reduction strategies and, where appropriate, to incorporate considerations regarding the risk of disaster displacement, in accordance with national circumstances, making use of practical guidance to support the achievement of target (e), and recalls in this regard the relevant voluntary “Words into action” guidelines;

13. *Recognizes* that the Sendai Framework, including its core provision to “build back better”, provides guidance relevant to a sustainable recovery from COVID-19 and also to identify and address underlying drivers of disaster risk in a systemic manner, and decides to hold a midterm review of the implementation of the Sendai Framework in 2023 to assess progress on integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes and investments at all levels, identify good practice, gaps and challenges and accelerate the path to achieving the goal of the Sendai Framework and its seven global targets by 2030;

14. *Urges* States to conduct inclusive and multi-hazard disaster risk assessments that consider climate change projections to support evidence-based disaster risk reduction strategies and guide risk-informed development investments by the private and public sectors;

15. *Recognizes* the important contribution of healthy ecosystems to reducing disaster risk and building community resilience, and encourages all States, United Nations entities and other relevant actors to promote ecosystem-based approaches for disaster risk reduction at all levels and across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management;

16. *Acknowledges* that water is essential to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, that water-related disasters and multidimensional hazards threaten lives, livelihoods, agriculture and basic service infrastructure and cause substantial socioeconomic damage and losses, and that sustainable, integrated disaster risk-informed water resource management is necessary for successful disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and in this regard invites all countries to integrate land and water management, including for floods and droughts, into their national and subnational planning and management processes;

17. *Recognizes* that biological hazards require strengthened coordination between disaster and health risk management systems in the areas of risk assessment, surveillance and early warning, and that resilient health infrastructures and strengthened health systems capable of implementing the International Health

Regulations (2005),<sup>15</sup> as well as increasing the overall capacity of health systems, reduce overall disaster risk and build disaster resilience;

18. *Urges* States, while implementing the Sendai Framework, to prioritize the establishment and strengthening of national disaster loss databases to augment efforts to create or enhance systems for data collection and the development of baselines on current losses, including livelihood and other losses of affected populations, and work towards the collection of information disaggregated by income, sex, age and disability and on historical disaster losses going back, at least, to 2005, if feasible;

19. *Recognizes* that disaster risk reduction requires a multi-hazard and systemic approach and inclusive risk-informed decision-making based on the open exchange and dissemination of data disaggregated by, inter alia, income, sex, age and disability, and analysis with an adequate understanding of how the information is to be interpreted and used, as well as on easily accessible, up-to-date, comprehensible, interoperable, science-based, non-sensitive risk information, for a wide range of users and decision makers, complemented by traditional knowledge, and in this regard encourages States to commence or, as appropriate, further enhance the collection and analysis of data on disaster loss and other relevant disaster risk reduction targets, disaggregated by income, sex, age and disability and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and to strengthen inter-institutional, inclusive coordination on disaster risk data and integrated analysis, and invites Member States to mobilize national statistical and planning offices and other relevant authorities, and strengthen their capacity in the systemic collection, analysis and validation of disaster risk data to institutionalize its use in decision-making processes and investments across sectors;

20. *Also recognizes* the endorsement by the Economic and Social Council on 2 July 2018 of the Strategic Framework on Geospatial Information and Services for Disasters,<sup>16</sup> as a guide for Member States to ensure the availability and accessibility of quality geospatial information and services across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management, and which contributes to the implementation of the Sendai Framework;

21. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the further development of and investment in effective national and regional multi-hazard early warning mechanisms, where relevant, and facilitating the sharing and exchange of information across all countries;

22. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation for disaster risk reduction includes a variety of sources and is a critical element in supporting the efforts of developing countries to reduce disaster risk, and encourages States to strengthen international and regional information exchange and sharing, including through North-South cooperation complemented by South-South and triangular cooperation, establishing and networking risk management centres, promoting critical science and technology research cooperation on disaster reduction and improving international coordination mechanisms to respond to large-scale disasters;

23. *Recognizes* the importance of monitoring the Sendai Framework, and encourages States to use the online monitor to report on progress against the Sendai Framework global targets and the Sustainable Development Goals related to disaster risk to provide, inter alia, a comprehensive overview of progress to inform the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, and notes the ongoing work towards coherence between national climate change adaptation and

<sup>15</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

<sup>16</sup> Economic and Social Council resolution 2018/14, annex.

national disaster risk reduction strategies, as well as the Sendai Framework target indicators and national adaptation goals and indicators;

24. *Reaffirms* that the establishment of common indicators and shared data sets to measure the Sendai Framework global targets and the disaster risk reduction targets of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13 is an important contribution to ensure coherence, feasibility and consistency in implementation, the collection of data and reporting, and in this regard recognizes the importance of prioritizing capacity-building support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges;

25. *Encourages* States to give appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>17</sup> where it is reflected across several Goals and targets, including in their voluntary national reviews, *inter alia*, through the engagement of national Sendai Framework focal points early in the national review process, as appropriate, and stresses the importance of considering disaster risk reduction in the deliberations and outcomes of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

26. *Reiterates* its strong encouragement of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>18</sup> the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Sendai Framework, as well as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>19</sup> the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>20</sup> and the New Urban Agenda, while respecting the relevant mandates, in order to build synergies and resilience, translate integrated global policy frameworks, as appropriate, into national laws, policies or regulations defining roles and responsibilities across the public and private sectors, as well as into integrated multisectoral programmes at the national and local levels, and reduce disaster risk across sectors, and addressing the global challenge of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

27. *Encourages* countries, the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take into consideration the important role of coordinated, inclusive and participatory disaster risk governance across sectors for the achievement of sustainable development and, *inter alia*, the strengthening of disaster prevention as well as preparedness for effective response, recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

28. *Urges* that due consideration continue to be given to the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework monitor;

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<sup>17</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>19</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

29. *Recognizes* that effective and meaningful global and regional partnerships and the further strengthening of international cooperation, including the fulfilment of respective commitments of official development assistance by developed countries, are essential for effective disaster risk management;

30. *Encourages* the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures, as appropriate, into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes and infrastructure financing, including through North-South cooperation complemented by South-South as well as triangular cooperation, within and across all sectors related to sustainable development, including poverty reduction, agriculture, natural resource management, the environment, urban development and adaptation to climate change;

31. *Recognizes* that financing for disaster risk reduction requires greater attention, and in this regard encourages increased investments in disaster risk reduction, including resilient infrastructure, and invites the United Nations system and its entities, within the scope of their respective mandates, in partnership with international financial institutions, regional development banks and other relevant institutions and stakeholders, to support developing countries in developing comprehensive disaster risk reduction financing strategies in support of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, and incentivizing investments in resilience and prevention, and to explore the development of tailored financing mechanisms for disaster risk reduction, including forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms;

32. *Encourages* States to allocate increased domestic resources to disaster risk reduction, including resilient infrastructure, to include disaster risk reduction in budgeting and financial planning across all relevant sectors, and to ensure that national financing frameworks and infrastructure plans are risk-informed, according to national plans and policies;

33. *Recognizes* that economic losses are rising as a result of the increasing number and value of assets exposed to hazards, and encourages countries to conduct a disaster risk assessment of existing critical infrastructure, to ensure that infrastructure plans are aligned to national disaster risk reduction strategies and risk assessments, to support the publication of disaster risk assessments, to make disaster risk assessments a prerequisite for infrastructure and housing investments and to strengthen regulatory frameworks for land-use planning and building codes, as appropriate, towards the achievement of target (d) of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard encourages countries and other relevant stakeholders to integrate disaster risk reduction considerations into their social, economic and environmental investments;

34. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to collaborate with the private sector to enhance the resilience of businesses, as well as the societies within which they operate, by integrating disaster risk into their management practices, to facilitate private investments in disaster risk reduction and to promote risk-informed private investments;

35. *Reaffirms* that investing in national and local skills, systems and knowledge to build resilience and preparedness will save lives, reduce the risk of displacement in the context of disasters, strengthen the adaptive capacity of food production systems and enhance food security, cut costs and preserve development gains, and in this regard encourages exploring innovative ways, such as forecast-based financing approaches and disaster risk insurance mechanisms, to increase the availability of resources for Member States before a disaster is credibly expected to occur;

36. *Also reaffirms* the need for the enhancement of the implementation capacity and capability of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, including the mobilization of support through international cooperation, for the provision of means of implementation to augment domestic efforts in accordance with their national priorities;

37. *Recalls* that the economic vulnerability index gives consideration to the impacts of natural disasters, recognizes the relevance of disaster risk and the impact of disasters in the process of graduation from the least developed country category, including the impact assessment of the likely consequences of graduation and the vulnerability profiles, and stresses the importance of integrating disaster risk reduction into the smooth transition strategies of graduating countries;

38. *Recognizes* that the extent to which developing countries are able to effectively enhance and implement national disaster risk reduction policies and measures in the context of their respective circumstances and capabilities can be further enhanced through the provision of sustainable international cooperation;

39. *Also recognizes* the importance of giving priority to the development of local and national disaster risk reduction capacity-building, policies, strategies and plans with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with national practices and legislation;

40. *Further recognizes* that, while each State has the primary responsibility for preventing and reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between Governments and relevant stakeholders, and recognizes that non-State and other relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Sendai Framework, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations and relevant agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, play an important role as enablers in providing support to States, in accordance with national policies, laws and regulations, in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels, and that greater efforts are needed to mobilize multi-stakeholder partnerships for disaster risk reduction, according to national plans and policies;

41. *Encourages* Governments to promote the full, equal and effective participation and leadership of women, as well as of persons with disabilities, in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes, and recognizes in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately exposed to risk, increased loss of livelihoods and even loss of life during and in the aftermath of disasters, and that disasters and the consequent disruption to physical, social, economic and environmental networks and support systems disproportionately affect persons with disabilities and their families;

42. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities, as well as other people in vulnerable situations, in disaster risk management, and of engaging and appropriately drawing on the capacities of children, youth, including young professionals, as contributors in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the role of

youth, volunteers, migrants, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with the Sendai Framework;

43. *Emphasizes* that disaster prevention, preparedness, early actions and resilience-building in most cases are significantly more cost-effective than emergency response, as well as the importance of additional efforts to increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning mechanisms of States, in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, and encourages all relevant stakeholders to support these efforts;

44. *Acknowledges* the continuous work of the entities of the United Nations system, in accordance with their respective mandates, in supporting the efforts of developing countries in the area of disaster risk reduction, including through the inclusion, where appropriate, of disaster risk reduction in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and as part of the common country assessment's multidimensional analysis, requests the relevant United Nations entities and United Nations country teams, and urges other relevant stakeholders, to continue to integrate disaster risk reduction and the implementation of the Sendai Framework into their work and to align their work with the United Nations Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, guided by the Senior Leadership Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience convened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, according to the Sendai Framework;

45. *Also acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster risk reduction, the substantial increase in demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for timely, stable, adequate and predictable resources necessary for supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework, and in this regard encourages Member States to consider providing or augmenting voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction;

46. *Recognizes* the continued importance of voluntary funding, and urges existing and new donors to provide sufficient funding and, where possible, to augment financial contributions to the United Nations trust fund for disaster reduction to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, including through unearmarked and, where possible, multi-annual contributions;

47. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction as forums to assess and discuss progress on the implementation of the Sendai Framework and advance coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate change mitigation and adaptation, including financing, and recognizes their outcomes as contributions to the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

48. *Looks forward* to the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction and their deliberations, to be held in Australia, Jamaica and Portugal in 2021 and jointly organized with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, and encourages participation by all stakeholders, sectors and ministries at the highest level possible;

49. *Stresses* the importance of promoting the incorporation of disaster risk knowledge, including disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, in formal and non-formal education, as well as in civic education at all levels and in professional education and training;

50. *Welcomes* the annual observance of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction on 13 October and World Tsunami Awareness Day on 5 November, and encourages all States, United Nations bodies and other relevant actors to observe the Days to further raise public awareness of disaster risk reduction;

51. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and to include in his report a section on the effective global response to address the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-sixth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Disaster risk reduction”.

*48th plenary meeting  
21 December 2020*

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