



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-ninth session

Agenda item 86

### Protection of persons in the event of disasters

## Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 4 December 2024

[*on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/79/476, para. 8)*]

### 79/128. 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,<sup>1</sup> which contains the draft articles on protection of persons in the event of disasters,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling* that the 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,<sup>3</sup>

*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,<sup>4</sup>

*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 and 76/119 of 9 December 2021, as well as its decisions 75/526 of 15 December 2020 and 78/516 of 7 December 2023,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and 58/114 of 17 December 2003 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency

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

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. IV, sect. E.1.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, sect. C.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.



humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, as well as the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>5</sup>

*Recalling further* its decision to examine the draft articles and to consider further the recommendation of the Commission for the elaboration of a convention by the General Assembly or by an international conference of plenipotentiaries on the basis of the draft articles, or any other potential course of action with respect to the draft articles, also in the light of all the views and comments expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee, as well as the comments and observations received from Governments, within the framework of a working group of the Committee, to be convened for four full consecutive days at the seventy-eighth and seventy-ninth sessions of the Assembly,<sup>6</sup>

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

*Noting* that the subject of the protection of persons in the event of disasters, including by promoting international cooperation between States in the areas of disaster risk reduction, including disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, is of major importance in the relations of States,

*Stressing* 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,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Law Commission for its continuing contribution to the codification and progressive development of international law;

2. *Takes note* of the reports of the working group on protection of persons in the event of disasters,<sup>7</sup> including the Chair's summary of the deliberations in the working group at the seventy-eighth<sup>8</sup> and seventy-ninth sessions;<sup>9</sup>

3. *Also takes note* of all the views and comments expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee on this topic,<sup>10</sup> as well as the comments and observations received from Governments on the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters and on any future action thereon;<sup>11</sup>

4. *Decides* 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

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<sup>5</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

<sup>6</sup> See resolution 76/119.

<sup>7</sup> See A/C.6/78/SR.36 and A/C.6/79/SR.37.

<sup>8</sup> Available on the website of the Sixth Committee at [www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/78/pdfs/statements/disasters/36mtg\\_oral\\_report.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/78/pdfs/statements/disasters/36mtg_oral_report.pdf).

<sup>9</sup> Available on the website of the Sixth Committee at [www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/79/pdfs/statements/disasters/37mtg\\_oral\\_report.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/ga/sixth/79/pdfs/statements/disasters/37mtg_oral_report.pdf).

<sup>10</sup> See A/C.6/71/SR.20, A/C.6/71/SR.21, A/C.6/71/SR.22, A/C.6/71/SR.23, A/C.6/71/SR.24, A/C.6/71/SR.30, A/C.6/73/SR.31, A/C.6/75/SR.17, A/C.6/75/SR.18, A/C.6/75/SR.19, A/C.6/76/SR.12, A/C.6/76/SR.13, A/C.6/78/SR.1, A/C.6/78/SR.5, A/C.6/78/SR.6, A/C.6/78/SR.7, A/C.6/78/SR.36, A/C.6/79/SR.5, A/C.6/79/SR.6, A/C.6/79/SR.7 and A/C.6/79/SR.37.

<sup>11</sup> See A/73/229 and A/75/214.

dates and location and in accordance with the modalities to be determined by the General Assembly at its eightieth session;<sup>12</sup>

5. *Also decides* that the Sixth Committee shall resume its session for up to five days by the end of April 2026 at the latest, in order to prepare a consolidated text including the draft articles and the proposals submitted by Governments in accordance with paragraph 6 below, within the framework of a working group of the Committee;

6. *Invites* Governments to submit to the Secretary-General, no later than 31 December 2025, proposals for amendments to the draft articles, with a view to preparing the consolidated text that will serve as the basis for the negotiations of the legally binding instrument as referred to in paragraph 4 above, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a compilation of all the proposals received to the working group;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eightieth session the item entitled “Protection of persons in the event of disasters”.

47th plenary meeting  
4 December 2024

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<sup>12</sup> Noting that the Government of the Philippines has expressed its interest in hosting a conference.