



American Model United Nations
Economic and Social Council

ECOSOC/I/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

SUBMITTED TO: The Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

1 *Recognizing* the need to coordinate humanitarian aid so that resources provided
2 are used with maximum efficiency,
3

4 *Concerned* that the current cluster approach limits the scope of aid currently
5 provided by Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs),
6

7 *Appreciates* the effective relief mechanisms of the United Nations High
8 Commission for Refugees (UHCR) and further encourages the efforts of this commission,
9

10 *Desiring* to improve the cluster approach to be more responsive to the needs and
11 culture of disaster affected regions,
12

13 *Mindful* of the need to improve accountability in disaster aid to help countries
14 reduce long-term aid dependence and prevent the possibility of aid corruption,
15

16 *Noting* the need to raise the standards for humanitarian coordinators involved in
17 implementing the cluster approach,
18

19 *Acknowledging* the challenges posed by language barriers relating to both national
20 and local languages in affected regions,
21

22 *Cognizant* of the existence of human rights of all individuals as per the universal
23 declaration of human rights,
24

25 1. *Recommends* the establishment of Regional Coordination Councils (RCCs)
26 under the directorate of the United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Aid
27 (OCHA), to address the local aspects of providing relief services:

28 (a) The RCCs shall consist of the participation of governments and NGOs that are
29 active in that region;

30 (b) In responding to a specific emergency, RCCs shall work with NGOs active in
31 the immediate area of the emergency in order to provide local knowledge and public
32 relations assistance;

33 (c) The RCCs will develop a list of endorsed NGOs for each region;

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34 (d) A Regional Coordinator will be established to be the director of each regional
35 RCC, reporting to the main committee of the OCHA;

36 (e) Approves the creation of reporting links between global and national clusters
37 to ensure that national clusters support sub-national ones;

38
39 2. *Suggests* the expansion of the existing clusters to account for NGOs that
40 provide infrastructural and comprehensive aid;

41
42 3. *Identifies* the need to create clusters within each region based upon specific
43 vulnerable groups within each region;

44
45 4. *Suggests* the establishment of regional conferences where NGOs involved in
46 providing aid to each region are able to discuss issues regarding the provision of aid in
47 the region:

48 (a) These conferences shall be held biannually in a location agreed to on a case-
49 by-case basis by Member States of each region;

50 (b) At these meetings NGOs can make recommendations regarding how their
51 funding is directed;

52 (c) These meetings will also allow NGOs to provide suggestions to the full OCHA
53 organization to aid coordination in other regions;

54 (d) These meetings will provide a check system where the RCCs can ensure that
55 the NGOs are allocating funding to areas in need;

56 (e) These meetings shall provide a mechanism by which NGOs can present their
57 common goals in each region;

58 (f) These biannual conferences would discuss healthcare needs based on the
59 necessities and capabilities of each region. In particular they would address ways to
60 manage major disease outbreaks;

61 (g) In these biannual conferences each RCC can determine the definition of what
62 constitutes vulnerable parties within each region;

63
64 5. *Urges* able Member States and NGOs to continue providing funding through
65 the reformed OCHA and RCC system:

66 (a) Emphasizes that the central OCHA will continue to exist and provide a global
67 system to ensure transparency and efficient allocation of funds;

68
69 6. *Proposes* a new training system for local aid coordinators in order to increase
70 competency and reduce turnover in those positions of humanitarian coordinators:

71 (a) This training system shall include education in regional and local languages in
72 the region they are being employed;

73 (b) Calls for more consistent and long-term leadership within the coordination of
74 different cluster groups in order to ensure accountability;

75 (c) Suggests reducing turnover within leadership of the RCC by requiring
76 leadership to remain constant for the duration of the humanitarian crisis;

77 (d) Encourages the sustained development of relationships between United
78 Nations and regional humanitarian coordinators;

79

80 7. *Enhancing* the standards necessary for employment in a position of
81 humanitarian coordinator under the RCCs:

82 (a) If qualified applicants who are fluent in local languages are not available,
83 translators shall be employed;

84 (b) If available, trainees shall come from the RCC region in which they are to be
85 employed;

86 (c) Local coordinators with a good record of performance should be held to be
87 specially qualified for jobs at OCHA;

88

89 8. *Encourages* vulnerable groups to train in positions of humanitarian
90 coordinators and to work through the RCCs to further accept the aid for their individual
91 communities welfare.

Passed, Yes: 24 / No: 7 / Abstain: 5