



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Second Committee

GA Second/I/5

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Sustainable development - Disaster risk reduction

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Second Committee

The General Assembly Second Committee,

1 *Reaffirming* the commitment to the Sendai Framework, adopted by the General Assembly in A/RES/69/283,

2 *Further reaffirming* the resolution A/RES/70/1, The Sustainable Development Goals, in particular goal
3 number six, access to clean water,

4 *Recognizing* the reality that vulnerable populations are disproportionately affected by natural disasters,

5 *Understanding* that vulnerable populations are those that are outside of traditional support systems or would
6 otherwise be unprepared to deal with natural disasters, those include but are not limited to, indigenous populations,
7 women and children, those in extreme poverty and refugees,

8 *Further recognizing* the danger that particular natural disasters such as drought, wildfires, hurricanes, earth-
9 quakes and other natural disasters pose to vulnerable populations,

10 *Bearing in mind* that while some Member States may be able to contribute more resources, particularly
11 financially, all Member States can help to ensure vulnerable people are well protected,

12 1. *Requests* that Member States hosting vulnerable populations implement policies that safeguard vulnerable
13 populations, these include:

14 (a) Disaster preparation and reduction plans, which includes creating specific roles and tasks for
15 government officials and agencies;

16 (b) Education on how populations in vulnerable areas can mitigate the risk of disasters and the
17 effects of them;

18 (c) Implementing communication systems between Member States that will help with providing
19 information and early warning systems;

20 (d) Creating and enforcing sustainable building codes;

21 2. *Invites* Member States hosting vulnerable populations to invest in infrastructure that will prepare for and
22 prevent natural disasters, in particular encouraging the use of private investment to help create such infrastructure,
23 particularly aiding in:

24 (a) Ensuring wastewater is properly disposed of and processed;

25 (b) Creating housing that will withstand the effect of natural disaster;

26 (c) Creating methods of transporting resources to vulnerable populations;

27 (d) Preventing the spread of infectious disease within vulnerable communities;

28 (e) Infrastructural defense against said natural disasters (floodwalls, diversion canals, etc.);

29 3. *Advocates* for the standardization of building codes and integrity based on the susceptibility to regional
30 disasters so that they are better suited to withstand particular hazards:

31 (a) Looking to protect schools, hospitals, and physical infrastructure;

32 (b) Aims to promote retrofitting as a way to nurture a culture of maintenance and sustainability;

33 (c) With the belief that preventative measures are more cost effective than reactionary response;

34 (d) Recognizing the possibility of using third party NGOs and nonprofits as a vehicle to overcome
35 barriers that arise when Member States do not have adequate infrastructure and resources available to complete
36 various projects;

37 (e) Implementing new infrastructure standards as they arise;

38 (f) Building codes should be based on regional and local community standards which fully address
39 the disasters which would affect the region;

40 (g) International coordination regarding the specifics of disaster plans, encouraging Member States
41 to collaborate on plans;

42 4. *Further requests* Member States to create plans for infrastructure to ensure access to clean drinking water
43 to vulnerable populations, who may lose access due to natural disaster:

44 (a) Recognizing the role that technology can play in creating more sustainable sources of water, such
45 as desalination;

46 (b) Further recognizing that ensuring clean access to water after natural disaster is crucial to reducing
47 the impact of natural disasters on vulnerable populations, to ensure the sustained health of vulnerable populations;

48 5. *Encourages* research in regards to durable ways to provide energy to vulnerable populations that may
49 lose access to traditional energy sources as a result of natural disasters;

50 6. *Further encourages* the creation of plans, for disaster risk reduction, that would ensure the safety and
51 security of women who may be disproportionately affected by natural disasters;

52 7. *Considers* the cooperation of International Financial Institutions, such as The World Bank and regional
53 development banks to encourage private development in order to create a long term sustainable solution to disasters
54 and internal crises:

55 (a) To enhance access of Member States, in particular developing nations, to finance environmentally
56 sound and sustainable infrastructure;

57 (b) To increase the overall capacity of developing nations in developing disaster risk reduction
58 infrastructure;

59 8. *Requests* Member States contribute resources to Member States hosting vulnerable populations in order
60 to aid in implementing these disaster risk reduction plans, provided they have the reasources to do so.

Passed, Yes: 63 / No: 14 / Abstain: 12