



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Second Committee

GA Second/I/8

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Sustainable development - Disaster risk reduction

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Second Committee

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1 *Guided by* already existing international accords, such as the Paris Agreement, Sendai Framework, and
2 A/RES/71/230: Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Contribution to Sustainable
3 Development,

4 *Expressing* our appreciation of the success of previous coalitions such as the United Nations International
5 Strategy for Disaster Reduction,

6 *Observing* the success of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as well as the World Bank in supporting
7 necessary causes,

8 *Recalling* the specific focus of A/RES/71/230: Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and
9 its Contribution to Sustainable Development in maintaining biodiversity while supporting sustainable development,

10 *Acknowledging* that all Member States have national sovereignty and regional bodies are often better-suited
11 to address disaster situations,

12 *Intending* to provide relief to the victims of disasters suffering throughout our world,

13 *Alarmed by* the current loss of life due to disasters and the current lack of effective responses,

14 *Focusing* on international cooperation through information systems such as Emergency Event Database
15 (EM-DAT) on specific disaster based issues,

16 *Understanding* the need of developing Member States to escape the cycle of dependency caused by natural
17 disasters that are destroying weak infrastructure,

18 *Confident in* the United Nation's ability to further develop effective methods to combat climate change, such
19 as furthering the Paris Agreement,

20 *Solemnly acknowledging* the propensity of Member States to develop unsustainable, fragile, and non-value-
21 added growth in various industries following infrastructural and economic destruction,

22 *Having the belief* that any effort to achieve our collective risk prevention goals are accessible to as many
23 Member States as possible, irrespective of technological, infrastructure, and economical deficits they may face,

24 *Acknowledging* that all Member States have national sovereignty and regional bodies are often better-suited
25 to address disaster situations,

26 *Acknowledging* the devastating ripple effects, across entire regions, that natural disasters have, including
27 their role in exacerbating ethnic tensions, causing migration shocks, disrupting public services, and stunting the
28 growth of the states most vulnerable to them,

29 1. *Establishes with zest* a bolstering of the existing frameworks with a program hereafter referred to as The
30 Great Punch to be reviewed every three years to ensure the Sustainable Development and Disaster Risk Reduction
31 goals are being met and to adjust the framework guidelines if development is found lacking;

32 2. *Calls upon* the further use of an the Emergency Event Database (EM-DAT):

33 (a) Desires this international information system to be accessible by all Member States through
34 already existing United Nations programs;

- 35 (i) Maintains oversight of this information system by the World Health Organization (WHO) with
36 a biannual review of the systems effectiveness to consider the security of the system and consider
37 the relevance of information provided;
- 38 (ii) Encourages information relevant to disasters at the discretion of Member States to be distributed
39 through the freely accessible information system;
- 40 (iii) Desires involved Member States to use the provided information at their discretion in the
41 manner of preventing and reacting accurately to disasters;
- 42 (b) Recommends Member States to provide specific and relevant information with regards to climate
43 change and the methods of combating the effects of disasters;
- 44 (c) Desires Member States to add information to EM-DAT about programs in sustainable develop-
45 ment and agricultural reforms;
- 46 (i) Endorses the sharing of specifically successful programs and their means of success;
- 47 (ii) Encourages the integration of these programs between Member States in a cooperative manner;
- 48 3. *Requests* that Member States produce research for EM-DAT in this field that:
- 49 (a) Recognizes the paucity of liquid financial resources maintained by the vulnerable populations
50 while producing solutions that are within the financial means of these populations or within the means of social
51 programs operated by the government of a Member State;
- 52 (b) Calls upon Member States to prioritize environmental sustainability and resistance to natural
53 disasters in new building and infrastructure developments;
- 54 (i) Provides information regarding sustainable materials and designs;
- 55 (ii) Integrates sustainability into the building or infrastructure project without undermining the
56 financial viability of the project;
- 57 (iii) Educating Member States on why environmental sustainability designs can be impactful for
58 their infrastructure;
- 59 (c) Facilitating collaboration between research programs across the globe by collecting laboratory
60 contact information from organizations and groups willing to take part in collaborative endeavors;
- 61 (d) Mapping areas at high to low risk of destruction in the event of pending natural disasters;
- 62 (i) Specifically identifying the most at risk communities and infrastructure;
- 63 (ii) Identify what areas are most in need of long-term development;
- 64 (e) Encourages Member States with grant-providing bodies to look favorably upon research proposals
65 in this field addressing the concerns described above;
- 66 4. *Encourages* the development of regional cooperation organizations between Member States:
- 67 (a) Integrating regional support into risk reduction through suggested frameworks within these
68 organizations for disaster recovery such as;
- 69 (i) Opening up communication between multiple governments for increased cooperation through
70 EM-DAT;
- 71 (ii) Supporting investment and financial contributions by regional, local, and non-governmental
72 actors as outlined in the Sendai Framework;
- 73 (iii) Specifically emphasizing the need for private investment that complies with sustainable devel-
74 opment and disaster risk reduction plans in order to discourage complete reliance on foreign aid;
- 75 (iv) Further supporting collaborative efforts organized by both private and public organizations in
76 enhancing commercial and public infrastructure;
- 77 (b) Advocating for Member States and regional groups to cooperate with providing the professional
78 assistance of engineers, doctors, and public health officials to provide;

- 79 (i) Medical consultation to develop public health areas to ensure natural disasters are less likely to
80 cause disease outbreaks and other relevant health concerns;
- 81 (ii) Engineering consultation for development projects to ensure they are sustainable and not at risk
82 of failing and harming the public;

83 5. *Recommends* increasing ease of access to educational materials and preparatory research such as the
84 Disaster Risk Reduction education programs outlined by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
85 Organization by incorporating these materials into EM-DAT to allow educators and community officials to:

86 (a) Raise local and regional awareness of preparatory tactics and supplies in advance of a natural
87 disaster by integrating preparedness into school and community settings;

88 (i) Spread awareness of basic supplies each home should have in the event of being trapped within
89 the home for extended periods of time;

90 (ii) Continue previous efforts on public health initiatives that seek to reduce disease spreading
91 following natural disasters and promote basic medical care;

92 (iii) Educate citizens on the best farming and building practices that reduce the risk of disasters;

93 (iv) Provide adequate education to enable and empower their citizens to best prepare their commu-
94 nities to be their own first responders in the event that disaster strikes;

95 (b) Provide adequate and specific education for professionals such as engineers in advance of natural
96 disasters by;

97 (i) Educating on the analysis of infrastructure present at all development levels;

98 (ii) Monitoring and analyzing data received from this analysis to develop techniques that help lessen
99 the potential risks and damages posed by these disasters;

100 (c) Encourages the sharing of proven safe building codes and integrity based on the susceptibility to
101 regional disasters so as to be better suited to withstand particular hazards;

102 (i) Dedicates this information to be promoting equipment modernization as a way to nurture a
103 culture of maintenance and sustainability;

104 (ii) Allows for the absorbing and implementing of new infrastructure standards as they arise from
105 these programs;

106 (iii) Encourage the dissemination of this information with local governments;

107 6. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in the Sendai Framework and Hyogo Protocols in regards to disaster
108 risk reduction and the importance of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
109 in addressing these issues:

110 (a) Reminds the body that the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction requires
111 Member States to contribute mandatory funds to the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
112 in times of budgetary deficit in the manner that they already do;

113 (b) Recommends that waivers for expected United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Re-
114 duction payments be provided only to countries that have used amounts of funds on disaster relief that exceeded
115 their expected amount of contributions to the UNISDR fund;

116 (i) Recommends that waivers for expected United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Re-
117 duction payments be provided only to countries that have used amounts of funds on disaster relief
118 that exceeded their expected amount of contributions to the UNISDR fund;

119 (ii) Asks that waivers be processed through an extreme scrutiny vetting system run by the existing
120 administration of the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

121 (iii) Requests the allowance of refinancing of payments over time, with payment grace periods in-
122 versely proportional to each Member State's GDP per capita;

123 (iv) Reminds all Member States of their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC);

124 (c) Supports the creation of a formal procedure for Member States to waive their mandatory pay-
125 ments to the United Nations International Strategy fo Disaster Reduction under the previous clauses, provided they
126 have reasonable justification to request such, including but not limited to being victims themselves of disasters or
127 conditions which the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction is seeking to remedy;

128 (d) Urges all Member States to be reminded of the agreed upon mutual responsibilities of the Paris
129 Agreement and other related documents;

130 (e) Further recommends that the United Nations establish a formal procedure to ensure these funds
131 are used for Disaster Risk Reduction only;

132 (f) Recommends Member States receive funds from the United Nations International Strategy for
133 Disaster Reduction system as necessary for specific disasters or calamities they are enduring;

134 (g) Desires a set amount of money from the fund be permissibly used on prevention tactics based
135 on a percentage of funds withdrawn from the coalition;

136 (h) Supports the World Bank and the IMF as review agencies to determine that money withdrawn
137 from the aforementioned relief fund be directed to preventative measures in combating disasters;

138 7. *Encouraging* Regional Development Banks to provide insurance for investment projects related to natural
139 disaster risk-minimization projects, to provide a failsafe for NGO's, central banks, and international agencies that
140 engage specifically in Sendai Framework prevention methods:

141 (a) Include structures of large scale insurance for microfinance, respecting the multinational nature
142 of these agreements;

143 (b) Allow for a safer flow of capital into Member States struggling to meet the goals outlined in the
144 Sendai Framework by guaranteeing a low risk environment for interested lenders.

Passed, Yes: 56 / No: 18 / Abstain: 13