



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent)

GA Plen/I/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent)

The General Assembly Plenary (Concurrent),

1 *Emphasizing* the importance of aid for both natural disaster relief and for pre- and post-natural disaster
2 development,

3 *Acknowledging* the definition of “refugee” as it extends to climate refugees as defined by the United Nations
4 High Commissioner On Refugees (UNHCR),

5 *Recognizing* the increase in frequency and severity of climate disasters due to climate change,

6 *Acknowledging* the disastrous economic effects Member States with internally displaced climate refugees and
7 States welcoming externally displaced climate refugees experience,

8 *Reaffirming* the need for international cooperation between state actors, non-state actors and local commu-
9 nities in efficient and empowering natural disaster relief and development,

10 *Acknowledging* that insufficiencies in infrastructure exist in many Member States that are especially vulner-
11 able to natural disasters and the effects of climate change,

12 *Further recognizing* the need for research to ensure infrastructure is and remains sufficient to withstand or
13 prevent natural disasters,

14 *Considering* the insufficient funding provided for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by the international com-
15 munity,

16 *Alarmed* by the disparity between developed and developing Member States in early warning systems for
17 natural disasters between developed and developing States,

18 *Reaffirming* the International Committee of the Red Cross Code of Conduct supporting human dignity and
19 humanitarian efforts,

20 *Emphasizing* the importance of DRR as outlined in the goals and objectives of the Sendai Framework;,

21 1. *Encourages* the expansion of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to centralize
22 aid related to disaster relief and post-disaster development equitably and efficiently to empower local peoples and
23 local economies by:

24 (a) Proposing that this body will be a central point in the efficient coordination of international aid
25 through building new connections while strengthening existing connections between existing global actors, including
26 Member States, international, regional and local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and professionals;

27 (b) Recommending that OCHA regularly audits its internal organizations and partners to deter-
28 mine current funding distribution and recommendations for changes in funding with oversight by local NGOs and
29 authorities;

30 (c) Further recommending that technical assistance and capacity-building support from United Na-
31 tions agencies such as the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations High Com-
32 missioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund
33 (UNFPA), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Na-
34 tions Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), World Health Organization (WHO) and other relevant
35 bodies be provided when necessary;

- 36 (d) Establishing record-keeping on the amount of funding and supplies that were used by disasters
37 to help in future preparation;
- 38 (e) Reducing disaster-based profiteering;
- 39 (f) Establishing regional bodies to ensure that aid is distributed in an equitable manner to all affected
40 regions of the world by;
- 41 (i) Connecting international actors with local groups and people to ensure that aid is being used
42 effectively to to address issues on a localized and personal scale;
- 43 (ii) Ensuring that ethical standards are maintained and enforced in a manner consistent with State
44 sovereignty;
- 45 (iii) Providing all parties with regular reports on the efficacy of the efforts made as outlined in other
46 sections of this resolution;
- 47 (iv) Coordinating relations and communications with NGOs;
- 48 (g) Facilitating knowledge-sharing between countries as it relates to DRR best practices by;
- 49 (i) Providing additional funding for regional resiliency plans to make regional assessments of infras-
50 tructure and disaster preparedness, including exchange of information via international expertise;
- 51 (ii) Deliberating on and introducing a disaster risk reduction response utilizing international ex-
52 pertise within the expanded OCHA coordinating body, to be improved upon with the historic and
53 situational context of each respective crises for countries facing natural disaster crises;
- 54 2. *Encourages* individual Member States to develop their own Disaster Action Directive (DAD) which
55 incorporates NGOs and entities into governmental disaster planning in order to:
- 56 (a) Outline the responsibilities and expectations of international organizations, civil services and
57 NGOs;
- 58 (b) Establish conserved communication strategies and platforms;
- 59 (c) Streamline cooperation and task delegation;
- 60 (d) Delineate command structures and ensure efficient allocation of resources and information in
61 disaster response;
- 62 (e) Utilize reproducible organizational theories and practices;
- 63 (f) Establish efficient and geographically relevant staging areas;
- 64 3. *Requests* Member States, particularly developed States, to transition to diversified long-term donations
65 in cooperation with NGOs and United Nations Agencies, including the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk
66 Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), United Nations Children’s Fund
67 (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), Food and
68 Agricultural Organization (FAO), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), World
69 Health Organization (WHO) and other relevant bodies when necessary dedicated to DRR in order to:
- 70 (a) Allow for more swift responses to natural disasters;
- 71 (b) Empower the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) as well
72 as other relevant NGOs to provide culturally appropriate citizen education programs to ensure disaster-ridden States
73 are following disaster response best practices as defined by these organizations;
- 74 4. *Encourages* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to prioritize sustainable
75 investments in disaster-resilient infrastructure tailored to at-risk States by:
- 76 (a) Promoting disaster resilient infrastructure and buildings over plentiful non-resilient ones;
- 77 (b) Tailoring disaster responses to the unique problems posed by singular disasters, including taking
78 inspiration from the local cultural context and coordinating with local authorities and NGOs;
- 79 (c) Investing in the maintenance of disaster-resilient infrastructure;
- 80 (d) Diversifying sources of funding to ensure effective disaster relief regardless of economic conditions;

- 81 (e) Encouraging a regional focus to maximize disaster response efficiency;
- 82 5. *Stresses* the need for the development of all forms of early warning systems, especially in at-risk Member
83 States, as well as the need to launch domestic programs that:
- 84 (a) Are focused on upgrading disaster detection technology, including investment in satellites, com-
85 munications and other elements of early warning systems;
- 86 (b) Work alongside United Nations agencies like the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to
87 provide support and expertise in developing and maintaining effective warning systems that;
- 88 (i) Aim to minimize the loss of life associated with slow or insufficient warning for incoming natural
89 disasters;
- 90 (ii) Eliminate the inequality of access to warning systems between Members States with different
91 levels of domestic economic development;
- 92 (iii) Provide better monitoring of warning signs of impending natural disasters and allocate resources
93 to regions likely to experience severe natural disasters in the future;
- 94 6. *Encourages* the promotion of disaster risk financing and risk transfer options based on ex-ante forecasting
95 to:
- 96 (a) Create an international standard for appropriate infrastructure and disaster response teams with
97 consideration for local context;
- 98 (b) Suggest that UN Aid and funding be prioritized to projects within countries with low Gross
99 Domestic Product and poor infrastructure to help reach these standards;
- 100 (c) Further suggest the World Bank prioritize grants with lower interest rates on loans for low-income
101 countries evaluated based on their definitions;
- 102 (d) Ensure that low-income countries that meet the international infrastructure standards will receive
103 greater support and financing via the World Bank's Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance Program (DRFIP) to
104 increase disaster insurance access to all;
- 105 7. *Promotes* the development of water management relief programs on a State by State basis, emphasizing :
- 106 (a) The creation and distribution of desalination systems and sewage treatment stations that turn
107 salt and wastewater into fresh drinking water;
- 108 (b) Strategically directed funding for thermal distillation technology to desalinate hypersaline brines
109 which result from saltwater desalination systems;
- 110 (c) The development of sustainable detention dams, bio retention rain gardens, and sunkens swales
111 to gather flood water;
- 112 (d) The importance of strengthening investments in NGOs employing traditional localized water
113 acquisition techniques;
- 114 (e) The need to create long-lasting solutions particularly for rural regions of developing countries;
- 115 8. *Encourages* Member States to abide by the 2015 Paris Agreement commitments to emissions reduction
116 and requests that all Member States further reduce emissions to lessen the impact of natural disasters that have
117 been worsened by climate change:
- 118 (a) Supports the establishment of national databases of air emissions, including toxic emissions,
119 which would;
- 120 (b) Coordinates with existing local monitoring systems, such as such as the WMO, to develop
121 national air quality monitoring programs;
- 122 9. *Supports* the establishment of an international air quality and pollutant monitoring database that;
- 123 10. *Further recommendations* that individual Member State develop a Medical Awareness and Action Frame-
124 work which incorporates funding for medical assistance and human necessities during natural disasters in order to:

125 (a) Address the need for medical aid, clean water, and food for people affected by natural disasters
126 in developing countries;

127 (b) Minimize the people who are continuously suffering from little to no assistance after natural
128 disasters take place;

129 (c) Designate monetary aid for developing countries to use for the purpose of medical supplies and
130 culturally appropriate education on medical use, the transportation of clean water and non-perishable food.

Passed, Yes: 42 / No: 29 / Abstain: 9