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Agenda item 87

Protection of persons in the event of disasters

Report of the Sixth Committee

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I. Introduction

1. The item entitled “Protection of persons in the event of disasters” was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly decision 75/526 of 15 December 2020.
2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2021, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.
3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 12th, 13th and 29th meetings, on 18 and 21 October and on 18 November 2021. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee’s consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records.¹
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General ([A/75/214](#)).

II. Consideration of agenda item 89

5. At the 29th meeting, on 18 November, the representative of Indonesia, on behalf of the Bureau, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Protection of persons in the event of disasters” ([A/C.6/76/L.20](#)). In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Indonesia orally revised operative paragraph 6.²
6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution ([A/C.6/76/L.20](#)), as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 7).

¹ [A/C.6/76/SR.12](#), [A/C.6/76/SR.13](#) and [A/C.6/76/SR.29](#).

² See [A/C.6/76/SR.29](#).



III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

7. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Protection of persons in the event of disasters

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [71/141](#) of 13 December 2016 and [73/209](#) of 20 December 2018, in which it took note of the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters adopted by the International Law Commission at its sixty-eighth session,¹

Recalling also that the Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles,²

Noting with concern the increasing number of disasters in the world, as well as their intensity and impact on affected populations,

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 of the United Nations,

Noting that the subject of the protection of persons in the event of disasters is of major importance in the relations of States,

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 once again* of the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters presented by the Commission;

3. *Takes note* of the views and comments expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee on this topic,³ 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;⁴

4. *Decides* 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 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;

5. *Also decides* that the working group will report to the Sixth Committee at the seventy-ninth session of the General Assembly on the outcome of its deliberations,

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 10 (A/71/10)*, para. 48.

² *Ibid.*, para. 46.

³ 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](#) and [A/C.6/76/SR.13](#).

⁴ See [A/73/229](#) and [A/75/214](#).

with a view to the Committee making a recommendation to the Assembly as to any further action to take in respect of the draft articles;

6. *Encourages* all Member States to continue the substantive dialogue on an informal basis during the period prior to the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-eighth session the item entitled "Protection of persons in the event of disasters".
