

Resolution GA/2/2.1

## **General Assembly Second Committee**

**Co-sponsors:** Republic of Algeria, Republic of Angola, Commonwealth of Australia, Kingdom of Belgium, Kingdom of Bhutan, People's Democratic Republic of Costa Rica, Japan, Republic of Kenya, United Mexican States, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Rwanda, Slovak Republic

## **Topic: Sustainable Development and DIsaster Risk Reduction**

The Committee,

Taking into account that natural disasters are linked to climate change (and that we must combat climate

change to minimize these disasters),

Noting that each natural disaster will require a unique plan of response,

Deeply concerned by the lack of shelter and safety for all citizens,

Bearing in mind that many people choose not to evacuate their houses for reasons such as:

- A. Worried about getting hurt if they leave;
- B. Attachment to where they lived all their life;
- C. People don't have money to move;
- D. People do not know about safe places to go (if alerts are electronic);
- E. People may not have access to safety protocols already put in place;
- F. People do not understand the danger of the disaster or underestimate the situation,

Realizing that natural disasters are not preventable, so recovery is important to help minimize the effect,

Keeping in mind that 33% of countries that have experienced natural disasters are low income countries and 81% of people who died from natural disasters are from low income countries, Noting with regret that only from 2005 to 2015, more than 700,000 people have lost their lives due to disasters that have affected over 1.5 billion people,

Recognizing an economic loss of more than 1.3 trillion dollars in total,

- 1. Requests that member states implement rescue plans, such as using the Coast Guard to assist stranded households;
- Recommends member states create infrastructure with loud speakers and alarms followed by pre-recorded safety steps;
- 3. Calls upon nations to provide education to governments on the safety steps specific to each type of disaster:
- 4. Strongly emphasizes the importance of the UN to suggest funding towards infrastructure for places where large groups congregate (e.g., airports) and implementing building codes that include shock absorbers (for earthquake resistance) as well as agricultural areas/structures;
- 5. Encourages countries to come up with technology to support the needed infrastructure and encourage them to share with other countries, especially less developed countries;

- Requests that the United Nations look at countries that are frequent victims of earthquakes, tsunamis, floods and provide more support to them;
- 7. Encourages member states to provide disaster shelters for homeless people or people who don't have access to shelter areas and the designation of buildings to serve as a community space for protection and shelter in times of crisis (if necessary);
- 8. Strongly urges member states to add transportation for people in rural areas to get to shelters during a disaster;
- Suggests countries put in place a financial safety net and create an initiative for countries who cannot afford this;
- Encourages citizens to participate in classes before a disaster occurs so that people know what to do. Government officials should help create the classes. Decision makers should also be better educated on the right decisions during disasters;
- II. Strongly supports the creation of PSA (e.g., signs that describe proper procedure) in places people go a lot (disaster prone areas);
- 12. Encouraging them to take memorable items, but, more importantly, encouraging them to take items necessary for their survival;
- Calls upon member states to educate people on the danger of disasters and the importance of evacuation;
- 14. Requests that member states dig/build something within houses to store food supplies so that when disaster comes they can go under something;

- 15. Endorses state creation of disaster preparation institutions for investigation, research, training, and emergency intervention in the field;
- 16. Emphasizes the need for backup energy plans (such as energy from solar power, hydropower, windpower, and other renewable energy sources);
- 17. Encourages countries and communities to keep protected (ex: water-tight buildings, vacuum-packing) food reserves, backup water reservoirs and jug stores, and stores of other supplies (such as firewood) in case of disaster;
- Recommends prevention measures such as planting trees to fortify soil against mudslides and constructing barriers against flooding;
- 19. Recommends countries that are at high risk to natural disasters to create a system to help families find each other after disasters (ex: designated meeting place);
- 20. Calls upon more disaster recovery centered NGOs to help clean up the destruction from disasters;
- 21. Further invites programs to provide emergency funds for workers and citizens after disaster to help rebuild and repair homes and property;
- 22. Draws attention to a system to help distribute money and supplies to those who are unable to get money and supplies due to disaster;
- 23. Strongly recommends having hospitals provide low cost or free care to those who have been injured physically, by disease, by trauma, etc. during a disaster;

- 24. Calls upon having drainage companies build sewers around farms to reduce flooding, so crops are not completely destroyed and having water filtration in houses to provide clean water;
- 25. Encourages tracking of natural disasters by each country by using advanced technology such as satellites to research and monitor the formations of natural disasters;
- 26. Strongly recommends all member states to create a risk profile outlining their country's natural hazards for example flooding, droughts, earthquakes and other weather related disasters;
- 27. Further recommends all member states to provide climate change adaptation planning based on climate research;
- 28. Emphasizes the need for schools to educate students about natural disasters and survival skills.