



American Model United Nations
General Assembly Second Committee

GA Second/I/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Sustainable development - Disaster risk reduction

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Second Committee

The General Assembly Second Committee,

1 *Noting with deep concern* that economic losses from natural disasters average 300 billion USD annually,

2 *Taking note of* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction which was adopted by Member States in
3 2015,

4 *Further noting* that the economic costs of natural disasters continue to escalate often faster than Gross
5 Domestic Product (GDP),

6 *Emphasizing* the consensus agreed upon at the 21st Conference of Parties (COP 21) Paris Agreement to
7 address climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions in small increments,

8 *Confident* in the capacity to promote, establish and manage effective and transnational partnerships in order
9 to create efficient disaster risk governance,

10 *Recognizing* that expected annual losses in developing Member States are five times higher than in developed
11 Member States,

12 *Aware of* the high number of those affected by natural disasters and that more than two million people
13 affected annually directly because of natural disasters,

14 *Believing* outdated and crumbling infrastructure only adds to the devastating effects of natural disasters,

15 *Identifying* the threats that not only natural disasters but all disasters in general pose to Member States of
16 all economic standing,

17 *Noting further* the importance of sovereignty of Member States and of staying independent in the discussions
18 of regional and international cooperation,

19 *Having considered* how regions experience similar natural disasters and the importance of regional collabo-
20 rations in confronting these natural disasters,

21 1. *Encourages* the strengthening of international cooperation and formation of genuine and durable part-
22 nerships at the regional level;

23 2. *Supports* the use of regional economic organizations, such as the Latin American and Caribbean Economic
24 System (SELA) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Economic Community, to define regional
25 economic goals and provide the avenues to reach those goals, such as:

26 (a) Recommends that Member States provide incentives for individuals, communities and other
27 relevant parties to invest in reducing the risks they face;

28 (b) Calls upon neighboring Member States to establish a disaster response infrastructure that focuses
29 on;

30 (i) Hiring and training professional first responders;

31 (ii) Developing national and local contingency plans for disaster scenarios;

32 (iii) Stockpiling resources like water and non-perishable foods;

33 (iv) Establishing disaster relief transportation networks across national borders;

34 (c) Encourages private businesses to invest in infrastructure improvements given that they will
35 benefit from the reduced risk of economic losses;

36 3. *Encourages* regional economic organizations, such as SELA and ASEAN Economic Community, to allocate
37 funds to assist Member States in improving their infrastructure and reducing disaster risks:

38 (a) Requests Member States use these funds to increase the resilience of critical infrastructure and
39 other basic services when affected by disasters;

40 (b) Welcomes the continued development of national and regional disaster risk reduction strategies
41 as outlined in the Sendai Framework;

42 4. *Acknowledges* regional responsibility and neighborly conduct by bordering Member States to alleviate the
43 reliance on developed Member States for financial aid, enhancing regional economic stability and affirming national
44 sovereignty of developing Member States;

45 5. *Encourages* the analysis of past natural disasters by national agencies, non-governmental organizations
46 (NGOs) and other experts, focusing specifically on cross-border disasters, to be shared on a voluntary basis with
47 Member States to further refine risk reduction strategies;

48 6. *Calls upon* Member States to prioritize the assessment of specific structures such as hospitals, schools and
49 crucial transportation links in order to develop a proactive plan for strengthening infrastructure that can reduce the
50 impact of disasters;

51 7. *Considers* the rebuilding, renovation and creation of necessary infrastructure as the primary need of
52 developing and developed Member States to reduce the effects of natural disasters by:

53 (a) Standardizing building codes and integrity based on the susceptibility to regional hazards;

54 (b) Protecting vital services such as;

55 (i) Emergency services;

56 (ii) Education services;

57 (iii) Health services;

58 (iv) Utility services;

59 (v) Communication services;

60 (vi) Transportation services;

61 (c) Creating environmental infrastructure based on geographic setting to be reactive and proactive
62 to climate change;

63 8. *Reaffirms* the long-term initiative laid out in the COP 21 Paris Agreement such as limiting the amount
64 of greenhouse gases in small but sustainable increments of time as determined by respective Member States.

Passed, Yes: 65 / No: 26 / Abstain: 16