

**Secretary-General's Report on the progress in the implementation of the  
organizational resilience management system**

**5th Committee**

**Introductory statement by**

Ms. Olga de la Piedra

Director Office of the Under-Secretary-General of DMSPC

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Madam Chair, Members of the Committee,

I have the honour to introduce to you the report on “**Progress in the implementation of the organizational resilience management system (A/73/666)**” as requested by the Assembly in its resolution 70/248 B.

This report describes the progress made in the implementation of the Organizational Resilience Management System or ORMS across the UN Secretariat, and explains the vision and steps to continuously improve the system. The report also provides an overview of the progress made in agencies, funds and programmes in this important area.

The ORMS provides clear guidance on how business continuity, crises management, emergency medical support, information and communications technology disaster recovery, support to staff and families, security, and crises communications must collaborate to ensure the Organization's resilience when facing crises. Colleagues have highlighted the advantage resulting from a coordinated approach.

The individual reports of Secretariat entities confirm that host countries have been involved in preparation efforts and in simulation exercises to ensure coordinated management in emergencies affecting UN entities.

This report also provides information regarding costs related to awareness raising and coordination and, training on the holistic approach to emergency management.

Madam Chair, Members of the Committee,

Let me now **highlight a few of the relevant achievements over the past three years.**

Constant improvement regarding the management of **global insurances** have been achieved thanks to the new practice of soliciting broker services for insurance policies on a regular basis.

The interagency community of practice **developed guidelines for the effective use of automated emergency notification systems**. It also **identified 92 courses** in the different areas of the ORMS, targeting a diverse group of audiences, to improve their skills.

At their **first conference on organizational resilience**, held in New York in March 2018, participants from the interagency community shared good practices and learned from academia and the private sector about current concepts of organizational resilience and business continuity.

The **ORMS framework was promulgated** globally across the Secretariat through **two communications campaigns**.

At Headquarters, **collaboration of the key disciplines of the ORMS has become a regular routine**, as has collaboration among different entities that constitute the bodies specifically created for crisis management, namely the **Senior Emergency Policy Team**, the **Crisis Operations Group** and the **Emergency Operations Centre**.

**Offices away from Headquarters** as well as the **Regional Commissions**, report that the framework of the ORMS **opens the door for joint emergency management among UN organizations located at the same duty station**, representing an achievement in synergies and quality of the efforts undertaken.

The report also demonstrates the **importance of working closely with field missions**. Initiatives included individualised support and training which have contributed to strengthening the implementation of a coordinated ORMS approach to emergency management.

Madam Chair, Members of the Committee,

So far, the application of the ORMS in the United Nations has concentrated on managing emergencies. However, the international standards on organizational resilience encourage a broader definition that strengthens the organization's capabilities to absorb and adapt to changing environments.

Aligned with this broader understanding of resilience, the interagency community of practice will work on **integration of ORMS with other disciplines**, such as enterprise risk management.

Madam Chair, distinguished Members of the Committee,

Today our request is to take note of the progress made in strengthening the Organization's capabilities to deliver on its mandate.

Thank you, Madam Chair and distinguished Delegates.