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Statement by

**The Delegation of Indonesia
before the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly
on
Agenda item: 87
Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters**

October 2021

Mdm/Mr. Chair,

Being covered by three tectonic plates namely Indo-Australia, Eurasia and the Pacific, which form a volatile seismic strip called the 'Ring of Fire', Indonesia constantly faces the risks of severe natural hazards particularly from seismic activity.

While the topic of protection of persons in the event of disasters hold dear to my country, it also globally critical.

We are of the view that the deliberation on the legal framework of protection of persons in the event of disaster, through this Committee, is paramount significant in deepening comprehension, promoting opportunity of international cooperation, and sharing of best practices on the matter.

In this regard, allow me to deliver the following three points.

First, with respect to the ILC Draft, my delegation has principally conveyed its observations, back in 2016 just right after the completion of the Draft.

Some of our comments in this regard are:

Indonesia concurs with the approach taken by the Commission to opt for the principle of "sovereignty of states" during the preparation of the current draft articles.

We also welcome the reference to the element of "particularly vulnerable" contained in the ILC draft, article 6. We believe such reference has merit to disasters-prone countries like Indonesia and at the same time an important statement and recognition to the growing state practices in this field.

My delegation further takes note provision on the duty to cooperate under article 7. In this respect, we wish to stress that the exercise of such duty should only be taken in light of the principle of sovereignty to which the whole draft articles rest upon.

Second, Indonesia is at the forefront of disaster-prone countries that have developed, and are continuing to develop, comprehensive legal regimes in supporting the entire disaster management spectrum.

On 26 December 2004, when the tsunami struck Aceh, we did not have a comprehensive national disaster management law in place.

But now, following the significant improvements of the new law, regulations and guideline, Indonesia became one of the leading countries that has undertaken significant legislative reform in the area of disaster respond/management.

The core legal framework in this regard is Law No. 24 of 2007 concerning Disaster Management, which forms the foundation of the governance of national disaster management. It contains a comprehensive set of provisions delegating national and regional government responsibilities, outlining the roles of businesses and international institutions, the different disaster management stages and their requirements, as well as disaster aid finance and management.

The law is supported by various regulations, among others, regulation concerning disaster management (presidential regulation no. 21/2008), and regulation on the participation of international institutions and foreign non-governmental institutions in disaster management (presidential regulation no 23/2008).

In complementing the legal infrastructure, Indonesia stresses the importance of cooperation among states including through cooperation for preparedness. We are pleased to highlight that, as the host for the upcoming 7th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in May 2022, we will work with member states and the UN-DRR Office in building sustainable resilience and strengthening our commitments to achieve the Sendai Framework targets as well as the 2030 Agenda.

Third, turning to the current deliberation on the draft article, particularly regarding its way forward, my delegation strongly supports further consultation among member States, and encourage the Committee to find a common ground on how we can proceed/consider the draft articles produced by the ILC.

Finally, rest assured of Indonesia's commitment and readiness in advancing global cooperation on the legal framework of disaster preparedness, response and management.

I thank you **Mdm/Mr. Chair**.

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