



**THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM  
PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**STATEMENT**

**by Mrs. Tran Thi Phuong Ha, Legal Adviser of Viet Nam Mission  
at the Sixth Committee of the 77<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly**

***Agenda item 86: “Protection of persons in the event of disasters”***

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*Mr. Chairman,*

Viet Nam, like most Member States, is deeply concerned at the increasing frequency and immense impacts of natural and human-made disasters. Given that many countries lack the necessary capacity to respond effectively to these disasters and address subsequent adversities, international cooperation and support are key tools. Recent devastating natural disasters in regions such as Turkey, Syria, India, Pakistan, Lybia, Philippines, and many other locations around the world have affirmed the urgency of global collaborative efforts to minimize consequences and effectively resolve humanitarian issues. These events have further underscored the collective responsibility of all nations to allocate resources and enhance their capacity to safeguard individuals. Within this context, the subject matter assumes even greater prominence and relevance.

Viet Nam would like to express our appreciation to the International Law Commission for its efforts and prioritization of the development of a legal framework related to the protection of persons in the event of disasters. The draft articles represent a significant and commendable contribution to the field of international law governing disaster relief. They are intended to serve as a guide for States and other stakeholders involved in disaster relief, enabling them to respond quickly to the rapidly evolving dynamics of disasters and emergency situations. It must be emphasized that these provisions should not in any way

create more procedures that might complicate the process. At the same time, the primary responsibility of states to provide disaster relief and protect their citizens should be fully respected.

While recognizing the fundamental value of international solidarity and the pressing need to reinforce international cooperation in disaster relief, it is necessary to ensure that such relief efforts remain aligned with the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. This includes the principles of national sovereignty, self-determination, and non-interference in internal affairs.

With that in mind, we welcome further discussion on the draft articles, including an assessment of their compatibility with other international instruments as well as domestic laws in order to ensure consensus on the way forward.

I thank you./.