

**Intervention of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
In the Working Group
“Protection of persons in the event of disasters”
Cluster 1
5 October 2023**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

Jordan has the following comments on Cluster 1:

In the **Preamble**, we reiterate our support for the principle of solidarity but note with regret that the draft articles do not explicitly incorporate specific obligations on States capable of providing relief assistance. Therefore, we would like this principle to be reflected as a duty.

Moreover, we believe international cooperation among States and relevant entities for disaster protection is a cornerstone of the agreement and the draft articles should be implemented in the context of this principle.

Furthermore, giving due regard to the principle of sovereignty of states, we stress that while the affected State holds primary responsibility for relief assistance, it is also obligated to ensure the protection of individuals and the provision of disaster relief assistance. This obligation includes seeking external assistance if the affected State is unable to provide relief. These interconnected obligations, duties, and rights are essential for achieving humanitarian objectives during disasters without infringing upon the legitimate legal interests of affected states.

Regarding **Draft Article 1**, we stress the importance of addressing not only the stage during a disaster but also the stages before and after. This comprehensive approach ensures that states are adequately prepared for disasters and their aftermath.

Furthermore, **Draft Article 2** should clarify what the phrase "with full respect for their rights" means. In recognizing that not all rights can be fully realized in the midst of a disaster, it would be valuable to explicitly delineate which rights will be particularly preserved within the framework of these draft articles. Such clarification will contribute to a deeper comprehension of the draft articles' scope and the parameters governing the protection of rights during times of disaster.

In **Draft Article 18**, we agree that international humanitarian law (IHL) should take precedence over the draft articles during armed conflicts in case there is an overlap

between the rules of the two regimes. This is a general principle. In areas where IHL does not regulate disaster assistance, the draft articles shall then apply.

If the draft articles become a convention, they may prevail over other international obligations of the States Parties, including the treaty obligations preceded this treaty on disaster protection. This should be taken into account when drafting article 18.

Thank you.