



# MALAYSIA

*Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York*

**STATEMENT BY  
MS. ADLINA NUJUMUDIN  
REPRESENTATIVE OF MALAYSIA TO THE SIXTH COMMITTEE OF THE  
79<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**ON AGENDA ITEM 86:  
PROTECTION OF PERSONS IN THE EVENT OF DISASTERS**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK, 4 OCTOBER 2024**

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Mr. Chair,

Malaysia once again welcomes the opportunity to engage in discussions to further develop the draft Articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters, as adopted by the International Law Commission, through the sessions of the Working Group next week.

2. We are cognizant that the draft Articles deal with an increasingly relevant area of public international law, especially as the frequency of disasters, be it natural or man-made, continue to rise. The draft Articles represent an important contribution to international law as they serve as a useful guide for States engaged in disaster relief and humanitarian assistance. They also constitute a comprehensive framework for the reduction of risks of disasters, the duty of the affected state as well as the role of external assistance in this respect.

3. Malaysia recognizes the extensive deliberations that have taken place on this topic, and strong desire by a number of delegations to advance the draft Articles through the elaboration of a convention. However, we wish to reiterate our position that the draft Articles should not take the form of a legally-binding framework such as an international convention. We continue to hold the view that States should instead be given the prerogative to decide whether or not to adopt the draft Articles. Even in situations where States do not adopt the draft Articles, this should not discourage the States from making reference to the draft Articles whenever it appears necessary for the said States to do so. As such, the draft Articles could serve as a focal international reference for disaster relief and management.

4. Malaysia will utilise the Working Group platform to seek further clarification and justification on the draft Articles, especially draft Articles 1, 2 and 3, in order to fully comprehend the implications of these substantive provisions. We may also have comments on draft Articles 13, 14, 15 and 17, subject to the deliberations and explanations offered at the Working Group session.

I thank you.