

Introduction of L.16

Protection of persons in the event of disasters

Mr. Chair,

I have the honor to introduce, the draft resolution on the Protection of persons in the event of disasters, as contained in document A/C.6/79/L.16. on behalf of a group of States - The Bahamas, Colombia, Croatia, Italy, Nigeria, Thailand and, my own country, Jamaica.

In our capacity as Co-Facilitators, we wish to thank the members of the Core Group for the trust and confidence they have placed in us to co-facilitate this process, as well as the delegations that have co-sponsored this resolution. Your support has been invaluable.

We also wish to express our profound gratitude to all delegations for the constructive engagement, flexibility and openness throughout this process. Earlier in the session when we introduced the process, we emphasized our intention to table a draft resolution that could be adopted without a vote. Our ability to do so today is thanks to each and every one of you. We are truly grateful.

In this draft resolution, together, as the Sixth Committee, we make a decision to elaborate and conclude a Convention on PPED. This is truly a milestone achievement and is a testament to our commitment to strengthening multilateralism as a Committee. To this end, and in accordance with the resolution, Governments will have the opportunity to submit proposals for amendments to the draft articles by 31st December 2025, with a view to preparing a consolidated text, within the framework of a Working Group of the Sixth Committee, for up to five days in April 2026. This consolidated text will serve as the basis for negotiations on PPED.

Colleagues, our collective action will serve to provide greater protection to persons in the event of disasters and will be of particular benefit to developing countries, who often face destruction from disasters that exceeds their capacity to effectively respond.

Mr. Chair, before I conclude this statement, I would also like to acknowledge, with great appreciation, delegations who have co-sponsored the text but did not appear on the L document. They are: Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Eswatini, The Gambia, Indonesia, Lebanon, the Federated States of Micronesia, Mozambique, Nepal, the Philippines, South Africa, and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Colleagues, we look forward to our continued discussion on this agenda item during the eightieth session of the General Assembly.

With that, Mr. Chair, I recommend that the Sixth Committee adopt the draft resolution in the form presented without a vote.

Thank you, Mr. Chair and thank you Colleagues.
