

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



**The Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations  
New York**

## **Intervention of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan**

**In the Working Group**

**“Protection of persons in the event of disasters”**

**Cluster 1**

**7 October 2024**

**Delivered by**

**First Secretary Nadine Bisharat**

**Check against delivery**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

Jordan has the following comments on Cluster I:

In the **Preamble**, we reiterate our support for the principle of solidarity but express concern 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.

We welcome that the draft articles apply to disasters regardless of their origin and that includes what is referred to as “natural and human-made disasters”.

Moreover, we reiterate that international cooperation among States and relevant entities for disaster protection is a cornerstone of the convention 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 crucial for achieving humanitarian objectives during disasters without infringing upon the legitimate legal interests of affected states.

With respect to **Draft Article 1**, we emphasize the importance of addressing not only the stage during a disaster, but also the pre-disaster and post-disaster stages. Such a holistic approach is essential to ensure that States are sufficiently prepared to respond to disasters and manage their aftermath effectively.

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 treaty obligations that preceded the obligations under this instrument on disaster protection. This should be taken into account when drafting article 18.

**I Thank you.**