

**Intervention by Thailand at the Working Group
on Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters
at the Sixth Committee
of the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly**

**Cluster 2: Core obligations
(draft articles 4, 5, 6 and 9)**

New York, 7 October 2024

Mr. Chair,

1. For Cluster 2 on core obligations, namely **draft articles 4, 5, 6 and 9**, Thailand wishes to share the following observations:
2. First, regarding draft articles 4 and 5 concerning human dignity and human rights, Thailand **welcomes the approach taken by the International Law Commission in having two separate standalone articles** — one on the principle of human dignity and the other on human rights. As human rights derive from the inherent dignity of the human person, we are also of the view that **the connection between draft articles 4 and 5 could be further refined during the negotiations** of a future convention.
3. Second, Thailand also **welcomes the current approach, which sets out the humanitarian principles as another standalone article**, given their significance in the context of disasters. We also note that the current formulation deals with primarily response to disasters. **Further refinement to address the connection** between these guiding humanitarian principles **and other phases of a disaster** could as well be further explored.
4. Third, Thailand very much welcomes the **inclusion of disaster risk reduction in the draft articles** as it is crucial for a community to become more effective in disaster management. We also wish to point

out that **disaster risk reduction is nothing new**. Disaster risk reduction is found in State practice — in the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures in domestic policies, legislation and regulations as well as in States' commitment as expressed and stated in a number of international instruments.

5. Fourth, Thailand takes note that the wording of draft article 9 on reduction of the risk of disasters indicates **an obligation of conduct, not one of result**. We agree with this approach. We also agree with the use of the phrase '**by taking appropriate measures**' in paragraph 1 as **States should have discretion** to choose measures they deem appropriate in undertaking this duty. We also take note that disaster risk reduction measures in paragraph 2 are illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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