

Sixth Committee

"Protection of persons in the event of disasters"

Statement by Angelique van der Made Senior Policy Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

NEW YORK, 14 October 2025

Mr./Madam Chair,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands aligns itself with the statement given by the European Union on behalf of the EU and its Member States and would like to make the following remarks in national capacity.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands has continuously recognized the global need for better protection of those suffering from disasters and for better coordination in disaster responses. As such, we welcomed the adoption of the draft articles of the ILC back in 2016. These articles have contributed to clarifying the different roles, responsibilities and duties of the main actors involved in disaster relief.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands therefore welcomes the decision to elaborate and conclude a legally binding instrument on the protection of persons in the event of disasters. We furthermore wish to express our assurances of engaging in dialogue on the draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters, as well as any proposed future amendments thereto, which Governments are invited to submit to the Secretary-General, no later than 31 December 2025.

Mr./Madam Chair,

With regard to the modalities to elaborate and conclude a legally binding instrument, which are to be determined during this eightieth session, the Kingdom of the Netherlands maintains a constructive approach. The Kingdom of the Netherlands wishes to emphasise it considers it important that the elaboration and conclusion of a legally binding instrument will be governed by the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations General Assembly. This is also provisionally the case for the procedure of the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Humanity.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands furthermore wishes to underline the importance of an open, inclusive, transparent and efficient process allowing delegations and stakeholders to engage in meaningful debates and make their contributions.

Thank you, Mr./Madam Chair