



# General Assembly

GA/RES/002  
19-20 February 2019

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## RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### **Regarding Natural Disasters**

*The General Assembly,*

*Alarmed by* the increasing number of natural disasters every year, their immediate and overwhelming impact on populations and infrastructure, and the threats posed by natural disasters to human safety and wellbeing,

*Recognizing* that natural disasters leave populations facing long term health issues with their livelihoods destroyed, suffering as refugees or as displaced individuals within their own countries,

*Noting with regret* that many developing countries are more vulnerable to natural disasters and their effects, as people in low and middle-income countries are seven times more likely to die from natural disasters than those in developed nations,

*Reflecting* that the coordination of relief efforts has been a recurring problem, as seen during the Indian Ocean tsunami and the earthquakes in Haiti and Japan,

*Noting further* that while not all natural disasters can be prevented, global preparation for and responses to their human impacts can and must be improved,

*Convinced* that the economic effects of natural disasters are long lasting and wide reaching in scope, particularly for developing countries, as even after half a decade communities devastated by the Indian Ocean tsunami are still struggling to resume normal, productive lives,

*Fully aware* that the number of disasters worldwide has more than quadrupled to around 400 per year since 1970 and will continue to increase,

*Keeping in mind* that natural disasters are a threat to all countries who will all need immediate help and care at the time of a natural disaster,

*Acknowledging* the implementation of Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction by the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR) by the Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on 18 March 2015,

1. *Urges*, all Member States to participate with 1% of their GDP in a worldwide natural disaster fund controlled by the UNISDR that any member state can withdraw money from seeing that the following expectations are met:
  - (a) Member State is in a declared state of emergency because of the impacts of a natural disaster;
  - (b) Member State can only withdraw a maximum of \$3 billion during each crisis;
  - (c) Member state in crisis is not receiving further foreign aid from more than 2 countries;
2. *Strongly recommends* all member states who have not already done so to develop a prevention intervention plan which takes into account local circumstances, ethics, and cultural values;
3. *Further urges* all member states to adopt an emergency disaster strategy to reduce damage due to natural disasters including:
  - (a) Education and communication to the people of the country;
  - (b) Access to essential commodities, shelter and food;
  - (c) Immediate medical care.

**Submitter: Philippines**

**Secunder: Somalia**

**Negator: France**