GerMUN 2022 | Weimar

Code: RES 1/2
Committee: General Assembly
Topic: Disaster Risk Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the importance of implementing the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030* (Sendai Framework), and further recognizing that the evacuation of big cities in case of disasters remains a big challenge,

Considering the need for communication infrastructure when it comes to the evacuation of cities and disaster response, and taking note of the special capacities of the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) in this area as established by General Assembly resolution 46/186A-C (1991) on "Programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993",

Bearing in mind that resilience has to be considered a highly interconnected issue, and further acknowledging the work conducted by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) on resilience strategies,

Emphasizing the importance of the use of green energy to combat climate change-related hazards by reducing carbon emissions and mitigating the influence of climate change on disasters,

Recalling the three main areas of energy use according to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the energy use in buildings, sustainable options for transport, and the creation of integrated energy systems, and highlighting the importance of adequate building standards and building codes for the quality and resistance of buildings during disasters,

Welcoming all ways of recycling, reusing, and combusting for energy recovery and the potential use of more waste for energy,

Noting the requirement of sustainable waste management and the work of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to prevent the pollution of water, diseases in the population, and resulting health disasters,

Aware of the need to set priorities regarding the establishment of disaster resilient infrastructure, as emphasized in the Sendai Framework,

Appreciating measures taken to establish and implement architectural solutions to disaster risk as taken by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in form of the International Disaster Resilient Architecture (INDRA),

Welcoming past efforts taken by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) in form of the Making Cities Resilient 2030 campaign to increase safety and resilience of cities against disasters by supporting local governments, and further noting the importance of biodiversity for a safe and risk reduced future,

Considering the relevance of non-state actors in disaster risk prevention, warning, and recovery,

1. *Urges* all Member States to include evacuation planning and preparation into their disaster reduction strategies;

2. *Encourages* ECOSOC to adapt the current resilience strategies of UN-Habitat to include evacuation planning and preparation;

3. *Encourages* the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) to include the maintenance of communication infrastructure into their preparatory missions;

4. *Further recommends* ECOSOC to work towards a revitalization of cities in cooperation with UN-Habitat, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), and civil society to provide more urban green spaces and make cities more resilient to flood, heat, and other disasters, including it in the existing resilience hub of UN-Habitat, by:

    a. Implementing the afforestation of cities by planting trees in streets, parks, and on playgrounds tailored to local needs;

    b. Reducing concrete covered spaces and providing semi-natural areas;

    c. Adding more biodiversity through green roofs and facades;

    d. Encouraging and enabling citizens to implement urban gardening;

    e. Building sustainable drainage and streets to handle extreme downpours;

5. *Encourages* Member States to establish the use of green energy to reduce air pollution and related disasters and make cities more sustainable and resilient to disasters in constructing buildings, efficient public transport, and different ways to gain energy by not only focusing on energy efficiency but also renewable energy, by:

    a. Setting up and updating building codes to ensure energy efficiency in housing;

    b. Implementing solar thermal systems and rooftop solar photovoltaic installations;

    c. Developing and maintaining large scale seawater district cooling systems;

    d. Using liquid and gaseous fuels, hydrogen, and electricity in public transport;

    e. Realizing the potential of waste-to-energy and the use excess of industrial heat;

6. *Recommends* ECOSOC to reduce the waste of resources to support sustainable use, focusing on:

    a. The promotion of the reduction of water waste to prevent water-related disasters like droughts by including rainwater harvesting and wastewater reuse removing biosolids from wastewater to make it reusable;

    b. The encouragement of the reduction of common waste by establishing recycling cycles and functioning garbage disposal in order to prevent the pollution and contamination of soils and waters;

7. *Suggests* UNDRR includes an assessment of cities most at risk of disaster in the UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction;

8. *Encourages* UNESCO to focus the INDRA project on urban areas most at risk for disasters;

9. *Invites* the regional secretaries of the Making Cities Resilient 2030 campaign of the UNDRR to directly reach out to national and regional governments, development agencies, non-governmental agencies and civil society organizations, academia and research institutions, and the private sector, where possible, through the United Nations Information Centres, to inform them about the campaign and enlarge its knowledge and support network for local governments;

10. *Recommends* for local communities and volunteer organizations from all parts of society to be actively included in UNDRR programs by specifically addressing and including them in drafting processes and executing projects, with the objective of:

    a. Reaching more people in disaster preparation, especially those that are most at risk;

b. Reaching more people with disaster warnings, especially those that are most at risk;

c. Mobilizing further resources by leveraging existing resources in collaboration with non-state actors, using investment mechanisms and voluntary services triggered by the relocation of existing disaster preparation programs within UNDRR and UNDAC.