

Statement by Ms. Nathita Premabhuti (Thailand)
Coordinator of the draft resolution for “Protection of persons in the event of disasters”
73rd session (under agenda item 90)

Introduction of draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.26 on behalf of the Bureau

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Mr. Chair,

Today I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the Bureau, the draft resolution contained in document A/C.6/73/L.26, entitled “**Protection of persons in the event of disasters**”.

The text of the draft resolution reflects the outcome of our discussions during several rounds of informal consultations, as well as of bilateral contacts. The previous resolution on this item, namely resolution 71/141 of 13 December 2016, served as the starting point for the text.

In addition to technical updates, the draft resolution, when compared to the previous resolution on this item, includes one new preambular paragraph and several modified operative paragraphs.

In the **first preambular paragraph**, the General Assembly would recall its resolution 71/141 of 13 December 2016, in which it took note of the International Law Commission’s draft articles on the protection of persons in the event of disasters.

In the **second preambular paragraph**, the General Assembly would recall also that the Commission decided to recommend to the General Assembly the elaboration of a convention on the basis of the draft articles.

In the **third preambular paragraph**, the General Assembly would note with concern the increasing number of disasters in the world as well as their intensity and impact on affected populations.

In **operative paragraph 1**, the General Assembly would take note of the views and comments expressed in the debates of the Sixth Committee at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly on this topic, as well as the comments and observations received from Governments on the draft articles and on any future action thereon.

In **operative paragraph 2**, the General Assembly would once again take note of the draft articles.

In **operative paragraph 3**, the General Assembly would bring to the attention of States the recommendation of the International Law Commission that a Convention be elaborated on the basis of the draft articles and request the Secretary-General to invite Governments that have not yet done so to submit comments on such recommendation.

Finally, in the **fourth operative paragraph**, the Committee would decide to include this item in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session.

Mr. Chair,

In arriving at this text, I would like to express my appreciation to delegations who have worked hard and engaged actively and constructively in the negotiations and also for the exchange of views on this topic. I would also like to bring to your attention that there remains a divergence of views as regards to further action to be taken on the draft articles that were adopted by the ILC, as well as on the urgency of the matter. It is my hope that frank and productive discussions will continue in the seventy-fifth session, and will continue to be met with consensus.

This concludes my introduction of draft resolution A/C.6/73/L.26 and I recommend that the Sixth Committee adopt it without a vote. I thank delegations for their cooperation and support.