



**STATEMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 86
“PROTECTION OF PERSONS IN THE EVENT OF DISASTERS”**

BY MS. CATHERINE NYAKOE, LEGAL ADVISER

DURING THE

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Thank you Chair

1. My delegation aligns itself with the statement by the distinguished Representative of Uganda on behalf of the African Group. We wish to make additional remarks in our national capacity.
2. The International community has always stepped in when need arose to respond to disasters as best as we could. Some of these efforts have been very efficient and commendable. For others, the need for better coordination and collaboration was apparent.
3. In this regard, the need for a practical yet solid framework within which international responses to disasters are conducted is plausible. At the heart of such a framework should be ensuring rapid response characterized by seamless coordination and collaboration among the relevant actors involved in especially the protection of persons in the event of disasters.

4. We commend the International Law Commission for developing the draft articles which provide a good anchorage for this discussion. In our view, the discussion should, however, not lose sight of already existing rules to avoid ambiguity or collision in the general framework we are aiming at. This consideration would be instrumental in clarifying the rights and responsibilities of both the recipients and providers of humanitarian assistance.
5. It would be of interest to also consider more concise necessary intersection points of the articles with other critical related elements of disaster management such as early-warning mechanisms and building of resilience, which speak to the crucial aspect of prevention and the dignity of persons in the event of disaster.
6. **Chair**, we will continue to pay close attention to discussions under the topic, fully aware of the need for improved mechanisms of disaster response in the midst of an increase in the occurrence and severity of disasters around the globe.

Thank you.