Mr Chair,

1新加坡感谢秘书长过去对这一议程项目的报告。

2保护人员在灾难中的安全是一个重要的问题。东南亚经常受到台风、洪水、地震和其他灾害的影响。仅在2023年8月，就有超过70起灾害事件在东盟地区被报道。最近的COVID-19大流行表明，其他因素可能减缓灾难响应和援助的分配。新加坡站在受影响国家的立场上，将努力在被要求时作出回应。

3我们注意到对未来的行动分歧，注意到其他代表团的评论，即是否应该基于草案文章制定一项公约。随着我们在潜在的行动方案上进行讨论，新加坡强调以下考虑因素应贯穿于我们的讨论。

4首先，无论采取哪种行动，草案文章都应该继续反映各国的实践多样性。这将确保草案文章与目前指导各国为其他国家受灾害影响人员提供援助共同努力的原则之间的连贯性。

例如，草案文章12条第2款规定，请求实体应迅速给予适当的考虑并回复受影响的国家。这反映了《东南亚灾害管理协定》的相应条款。
Emergency Response, which has informed Singapore’s contributions to disaster relief efforts in our region.

5 Second, the principles of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity. As a starting point, even in times of disaster, States should have the right to determine whether to provide, seek, or receive assistance; and to determine the necessary measures to take to reduce the risk of disasters. In this regard, we note that Draft Article 13, paragraph 1 states that the provision of external assistance requires the consent of the affected State. This again accords with the ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response, which explicitly recognises that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Parties shall be respected.

Mr. Chair,

6 The Draft Articles represent an important contribution to international law on response to disasters. They can serve as a useful guide for States and others engaged in disaster relief. We look forward to fruitful discussions within the working group in the coming days.

7 Thank you.

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