



# NEPAL

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**Statement by Mr. Puskar Raj Nepal,  
Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Nepal to the  
United Nations  
at 80<sup>th</sup> Session of the Sixth Committee of the UN General  
Assembly under Agenda Item No. 86: Protection of Persons in the  
Event of Disasters  
(New York, 15 October 2025)  
(7 Minutes)**

**Mr. Chair,**

As the world grapples with devastating impacts of natural calamities and human-made crises, we confront a future shaped by both turbulence and resilience for recovery.

The human and economic impacts of disasters are colossal.

The suddenness with which the disasters occur and the scale of destruction they cause to economies, infrastructure and people's lives, test our ability to respond and rebuild together.

The annual economic and social costs of disasters exceeds \$ 2.3 trillion, further undermining the slow progress towards SDGs.

The converging crises- climate catastrophe, rising debt, conflicts and volatile global economic landscape- have exacerbated the severity of disasters across the globe, particularly in the LDCs.

**Mr. Chair,**

Nepal remains at the sharp end of natural, climate-induced disasters and earthquake vulnerabilities.

The 2015 earthquake alone claimed over 9 thousand lives, caused over \$ 7 billion in economic loss, and pushed nearly a million people back to poverty while affecting a third of its population.

These recurrent disasters have seriously hindered our development gains including the progress on SDGs.

Our efforts to mitigate climate change and strengthen disaster preparedness are therefore crucial to reducing the multi-pronged impacts of the disasters.

We underscore accelerated implementation of the Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All initiative to deliver action on our commitments in the Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Agenda 2030 and the Pact for the Future.

We have intensified our efforts in achieving the targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction by strengthening institutional mechanisms and implementing policy frameworks such as National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy, National Disaster Response Framework, and Disaster Risk Reduction National Strategic Action Plan.

In pursuing a 'whole of government' approach, our three-tier governments undertake concurrent responsibilities to carry out disaster preparedness, rescue, relief, and rehabilitation works.

Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, 2017 guides a comprehensive approach to disaster cycle management while promoting proactive disaster risk reduction towards resilience building.

Nepal regularly issues early warnings of major hazards, especially floods and droughts.

We have a dedicated data portal to provide real-time updates on disaster events and response measures.

We have been collaborating with regional partners in implementing regional frameworks on disaster management to enhance regional collaboration for effective disaster preparedness, prevention, control and resilience building.

We appreciate UNDRR for its continued support through its Strategic Framework 2022-2025 to accelerate the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the national level.

Nepal acknowledges the instrumental contribution of the International Law Commission in producing draft articles on the 'Protection of persons in the event of disasters.

We are confident that these draft articles provide a foundation to framing a universal convention, as mandated by the UNGA resolution adopted in 2024.

**Mr. Chair,**

**In this light, I wish to underline a few action points.**

**First,** we must strengthen global cooperation and partnership in disaster management, focusing on effective pre-disaster responses while ensuring to build back better in recovery.

We urge the international community, especially developed countries to support the climate and disaster vulnerable countries like Nepal with scaled-up climate financing, financial assistance, technology transfer and capacity building to implement Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in the national context.

**Second,** it is indispensable to conclude an international Convention on the protection of persons in the event of disasters, anchored in the draft articles of International Law Commission.

This instrument should provide clarity and consistency in disaster response and must be inclusive, implementable, and respectful of national sovereignty.

**Third,** international cooperation in disaster responses should adhere to the principles of the UN Charter, particularly respect for national sovereignty of the disaster-affected states.

**Fourth,** as the world faces a disaster-prone future, investing in pre-disaster preparedness, early warning systems and resilience-building is not optional but imperative.

**Finally**, initiatives such as raising public awareness, provisioning safe evacuation routes, launching community training programmes, enforcing stringent codes for resilient infrastructure and ensuring reliable channels of communication before, during and after disasters are equally vital.

**In closing, Mr. Chair,**

No nation- developed or developing- is immune to devastating impacts of the disasters.

Together, we can turn the tide of disasters to thrive as a resilient community of nations.

I reaffirm Nepal's commitments to creating a new milestone in international law to ensure the protection of persons in the event of disasters.

I thank you.