

ZERO DRAFT

Political declaration of the Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

PP1 We, Heads of State and Government, Ministers, and High Representatives, gathered at the United Nations on 18 and 19 May 2023 for the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 to assess progress towards the achievement of the Framework's outcome, goal and seven global targets by 2030. We reaffirm our commitment to the full implementation of the Sendai Framework's four priorities for action and pledge to accelerate progress on integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes, and investments at all levels. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP14)

PP2 We express deep concern that economic losses are rising as a result of the increasing number and value of assets exposed to hazards (A/RES/77/164 OP41) and at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact in recent years, including the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its consequences, the adverse impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, pollution and other environmental degradation aspects, as well as rising geopolitical tensions and conflicts (based on E/HLS/2022/1 paragraph 2).

PP3 We express deep concern that these disasters have resulted in massive loss of life, food insecurity, water-related challenges, displacement, humanitarian needs and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular that of developing countries. (Based on A/RES/77/164 PP11)

PP4 We recognize that disaster risk is increasingly complex and systemic and that hazards can trigger each other with cascading impacts across sectors and geographies, as well as at the local, national, regional and global levels. (A/RES/77/164 PP12) We recognize, in this regard, that conventional approaches to risk management are no longer fit for purpose and commit to shift from managing disasters and their impacts to proactively managing and reducing disaster risk. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 1 & 57)

PP5 We recognize with great concern that disaster impacts are undermining progress towards sustainable development (new language). We recall the synergies between the Sendai Framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the Paris Agreement. (Based on A/RES/77/164 PP25 & OP31) We reaffirm the urgency of implementing the Sendai Framework as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and the importance of coherence between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction. (A/RES/77/164 PP17 & OP28)

PP6 While we recognize that the implementation of the Sendai Framework is delivering positive results, we are deeply concerned that the pace of implementation is too slow. We express appreciation to the Member States, stakeholders, and United Nations system entities that engaged in the midterm review process, including by submitting voluntary national reviews, and we welcome the report on the *Main Findings and Recommendations of the Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*¹ and the *Report of the Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*² and note the gaps and challenges highlighted and the good practices and recommendations provided as examples and basis for cooperation within and among countries in accelerating the implementation of the Sendai Framework for the benefit of present and future generations. (New language)

¹ [A/77/640](#)

² To be published

1. *We welcome* progress made in understanding risk at all levels since 2015, including the establishment and upgrading of disaster loss databases and improvements in the collection and utilization of disaster risk data in decision-making in many countries. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 12, 13 & 18)
2. *We reaffirm* that disaster risk reduction requires a multi-hazard and multisectoral approach that includes natural and man-made hazards, as well as related environmental, technological, and biological hazards and risks. (Sendai Framework paragraphs 7 & 15) We recognize that without efforts to enhance the standard of and access to multi-hazard risk data in all sectors and in all countries, particularly developing countries, policy, and investment decisions will continue to be made without sufficient understanding of risk. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 15 & 64)
3. *We express concern* that gaps in the collection of disaster loss and risk data disaggregated by income, sex, age, and disability are barriers to the development of inclusive disaster risk reduction policies and strategies in all countries. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP24; A/77/640 paragraph 9)
4. *We recognize* also that greater attention is needed in all countries to strengthen understanding of new, emerging, and future risks, including the long-term impacts of climate change and the adverse impacts of rapid technological change and artificial intelligence. (New language)
5. *We call on* Member States to renew commitment to strengthen understanding of disaster risk by:
 - a) Prioritizing the establishment and strengthening of national disaster loss databases, and to enhance investment in capacity development and science and technology, including artificial intelligence and emerging technologies (new language), for multidimensional and multi-hazard risk assessment, risk analytics and strategic foresight, (A/RES/77/164 OP17)
 - b) Improving mechanisms to share disaster risk data between sectors, institutions, ministries, and borders and to ensure disaster risk information is accessible and available in easily understandable formats to ensure it is used in public and private sector decision-making in all sectors, (based on A/RES/77/164 OP24; A/77/640 paragraph 66)
 - c) Ensuring the use of traditional, Indigenous, and local knowledge and practices to complement scientific knowledge in disaster risk assessment and to enhance the collection of data disaggregated by income, sex, age, and disability, and (based on A/77/640 paragraph 15; A/RES/77/164 OP56)
 - d) Enhancing efforts to promote a culture of prevention and education on disaster risk through education curricula, professional training, advocacy campaigns, social media, and community mobilization. (Based on Sendai Framework 24(1), 36(a) & 36(d))
6. *We commend* progress in strengthening national disaster risk governance, including the significant increase in countries with national disaster risk reduction strategies since 2015, and considerable progress made in regional and subregional cooperation mechanisms for disaster risk reduction. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 23 & 24)
7. *We reiterate* the importance of engagement from all of society in disaster risk reduction and express appreciation for the critical role played by non-State stakeholders in implementing the Sendai Framework at local, national, regional and global levels. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP46)
8. *We express concern* that there has been limited progress on disaster risk governance at the local level and recognize the need for enhanced support to local authorities and communities, particularly in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States. (Based on A/77/640 paragraph 25)
9. *We express concern* also that silos between national and local institutions, limited coordination between disaster risk reduction, climate change, sustainable development and economic policy and

plans, and a lack of national legal frameworks for disaster risk reduction hamper progress in implementing the Sendai Framework. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 27, 28, 29 & 30)

10. *We call on* Member States to renew commitment to strengthen disaster risk governance by:

- a) Strengthening national risk governance with the full engagement of all State institutions, including by establishing or strengthening national platforms for disaster risk reduction, or similar mechanisms, to strengthen coordination across ministries and institutions; mapping existing policy architecture and capacities for disaster risk reduction and addressing gaps and assigning roles and responsibilities across ministries and institutions, as needed; and ensuring that all sectors have disaster risk reduction policies and strategies in place, (based on A/RES/77/164 OP12; A/77/640 paragraphs 81, 85, & 87; Sendai Framework paragraphs 19(e), 27(a), 27(g) & 48(c))
- b) Ensuring that all local authorities have disaster risk reduction strategies in place; to strengthen capacity and enhance resources for risk governance at the local level; and to promote community participation and ownership through community-based disaster risk management approaches and welcome the “Making Cities Resilient 2030” initiative, (based on A/RES/77/164 OP12 & OP19; A/77/640 paragraph 90; Sendai Framework paragraphs 19(f), 27(a), 27(b), and 27(h))
- c) Ensuring that disaster risk governance is supported by legal and regulatory frameworks that reflect shared responsibility for risk-informed decision-making and investment, (New language, based on A/77/640 paragraph 28 & 84 with rationale from A/RES/77/164 OP31 and Sendai Framework paragraphs 19(e), 27(a), & 27(i)) and to strengthen regulatory frameworks for land-use and urban planning and building codes, as needed, (based on A/RES/77/164 OP41; Sendai Framework paragraph 27(d))
- d) Promoting the full, equal, effective and inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as well as the role of youth, volunteers, migrants, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, (A/RES/77/164 OP48)
- e) Promoting the full, equal, and effective participation and leadership of women, youth, persons with disabilities, poor people, migrants, older persons, and Indigenous Peoples, in the design and implementation of disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes, including for gender-responsive and disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction, (based on A/RES/77/164 OP47 & OP48; Sendai Framework paragraphs 7, 19(c), 27(h), 36 * 36; A/77/640 paragraph 91)
- f) Promoting disaster risk reduction policies and strategies that reduce displacement risk in the context of disasters, and support durable solutions to disaster displacement through international, regional, subregional, transboundary, and bilateral cooperation, (based on A/RES/77/164 PP11 & PP13)
- g) Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction in the implementation of other instruments and tools relevant to disaster risk reduction, such as for climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development, pandemic prevention and preparedness, poverty eradication, environment, agriculture, health, food and nutrition, urban development, and others, as appropriate, in collaboration with all entities of the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders, (New language, based on A/RES/77/164 OP31)
- h) Promoting nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches, among other approaches, at all levels and across all phases of disaster risk reduction and management. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP18) We recognize their scalability and effectiveness in simultaneously addressing the growing challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss and disaster risks, and (Based on A/77/640 paragraph 37).
- i) Engaging with regional and subregional organizations to intensify their work in advancing cooperation on disaster risk reduction at the regional level and encourage greater engagement and partnership between the entities of the United Nations system and regional and subregional organizations. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP32)

11. *We note* improvements in disaster related financing since 2015, including innovations in risk financing, risk transfer mechanisms including insurance, adaptive social protection, and financing for anticipatory action. We note also the further integration of disaster risk reduction into official development assistance and the work of international financial institutions. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 37, 38, 43, 44, & 45) We also welcome the establishment of the G20 Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction. (New language)
12. *We recognize* that the detrimental impact of disasters on the debt sustainability of many least developed countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries warrants further attention and that preserving external debt sustainability requires ex ante financing to enable the systematic reduction of disaster risk and resilience-building. (A/RES/77/153 OP17)
13. *We are deeply concerned* that disaster-related financing remains focused on reactive measures, and public and private investments in disaster risk reduction and efforts to de-risk investments remain inadequate, particularly in least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries, and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges. (Based on A/77/640 paragraph 31, 41 & 42)
14. *We call on* Member States to renew commitment to invest in disaster risk reduction by:
 - a) Identifying gaps in public spending on disaster risk reduction and ensuring that disaster risk reduction is mainstreamed in public budgeting, financial planning, expenditure, investment, and procurement processes in all sectors and at all levels of government, as well as integrated national financing frameworks, (new language, based on A/RES77/164 OP40; E/FFDF/2021/3 paragraph 17; A/77/640 paragraph 104)
 - b) Developing comprehensive national and local disaster risk reduction financing strategies that leverage the full spectrum of pre- and post-disaster financial resources from public, private, domestic, and international sources, (new language based on A/RES/77/164 OP39)
 - c) Integrating disaster risk reduction into the work and decisions of central banks and other financial and regulatory authorities to incentivize and promote investments in risk reduction and resilience, (new language, based on A/77/640 paragraph 97)
 - d) Ensuring that infrastructure plans are aligned to disaster risk reduction strategies; to make multi-hazard disaster risk assessments a prerequisite for infrastructure, housing and real estate investments in all sectors; and to routinely conduct stress testing of new and existing critical infrastructure systems. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP41) Recognising that the Principles for Resilient Infrastructure can provide relevant practical and policy guidance, (New language)
 - e) Promoting accurate disaster risk pricing in private and public sector investments and transactions; (New language, based on A/77/640 paragraph 97) the disclosure of disaster risk in business operations, asset values, credit assessments, lending and investment decisions; and the engagement of credit rating agencies and capital market actors in disaster risk reduction, (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP42; A/77/640 paragraphs 96, 97 & 102)
 - f) Prioritizing and enhancing the allocation of and access to sustainable and predictable financing for disaster risk reduction, including new and innovative mechanisms and the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, to build resilient health, water, food, transport, energy, and digital connectivity systems, (New language, based on A/RES/77/245 OP12; A/77/640 paragraph 79)
 - g) Further incorporating disaster risk reduction measures, as appropriate, into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes and infrastructure financing, including through North-South cooperation complemented by South-South as well as triangular cooperation, within and across all sectors related to sustainable development, (A/RES/77/164 OP38) including through the fulfilment of respective commitments of official development assistance, and (A/RES/77/164 OP36)
 - h) Increasing investments in the overall capacity of health systems and enhancing coordination, coherence and integration between disaster and health risk management systems to, inter alia,

strengthen pandemic prevention and preparedness drawing lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, and applying the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP23; A/77/640 paragraph 26)

15. *We welcome* progress made in enhancing the effectiveness of disaster preparedness and response as well as in the design and implementation of multi-hazard early warning systems since 2015, particularly through enhanced regional cooperation mechanisms. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 47 & 49)
16. *We are concerned* that most countries lack effective pre-disaster preparations to “Build Back Better” which has led to missed opportunities to build resilience, reduce risk, and make progress towards sustainable development through recovery and reconstruction. (Based on A/77/640 paragraphs 48)
17. *We are deeply concerned* that coverage of multi-hazard early warning systems remains inadequate, particularly in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States. We are also deeply concerned at the lack of inclusivity and participation in the design and implementation of disaster preparedness, response and recovery and multi-hazard early warning systems. (New language, based on A/77/640 paragraph 50, 52 & 53)
18. *We call on* Member States to renew commitment to enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction by:
 - a) Reviewing national and local disaster recovery and rehabilitation plans to ensure they are inclusive and contain provisions to “Build Back Better”, addressing underlying drivers of disaster risk, and are supported by legal frameworks as well as resources and capacities for their effective implementation, (based on A/77/640 paragraph 114; A/RES/77/164 PP17 & OP23)
 - b) Promoting the further development of and investment in effective national and regional multi-hazard early warning mechanisms, (A/RES/77/164 OP26) including through the implementation of the Early Warnings for All initiative, with coordinated support from the United Nations system and leveraging the technological capacities and expertise of the private sector, (based on A/77/640 paragraph 51; A/RES/77/164 OP26)
 - c) Strengthening good governance in disaster risk reduction strategies at the national, regional and global levels and improving preparedness and national coordination for disaster response, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and (Sendai Framework, paragraph 6)
 - d) Accelerating the application of disaster risk reduction to bridge the divide between humanitarian and development activities. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP13; A/77/640 paragraph 109)
19. *We commit* to implementing the calls to action in this declaration towards a risk-informed approach to development at local, national, regional and global levels. (New language)
20. *We will endeavour* to integrate disaster risk reduction in all relevant global stocktakes, conferences and reviews before 2030, particularly the Sustainable Development Goals Summits, the Summit of the Future, the Fourth United Nations Conference for Small Island Developing States and the Third United Nations Conference for Landlocked Developing Countries. (Based on A/RES/77/164 paragraph 59)
21. *We encourage* the United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to continue integrating disaster risk reduction across their work and to regularly follow-up and review the implementation of the Sendai Framework and this declaration. (Based on A/RES/77/164 op30)
22. *We request* the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to lead an inter-agency and consultative process to develop a gender action plan for the Sendai Framework.(Based on E/CN.6/2022/L.7 paragraph 62(c))

23. *We look forward* to the Global and Regional Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction to be held before 2030 to take stock of, and give practical guidance on, the implementation of this declaration. (New language)
24. *We call upon* relevant entities of the United Nations system to enhance support to Member States to implement the Sendai Framework and the calls to action contained in this declaration. We further call for the integration of disaster risk reduction in the common country analysis and in United Nations planning and programming documents, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP48; A/RES/75/233 OP37)
25. *We call upon* relevant entities of the United Nations system to enhance technical support to Member States for the development of disaster risk reduction standards, legislation, regulations, data collection and monitoring, risk analytics, de-risking investment, and multi-hazard early warning systems. (New language) We encourage Member States to consider providing or augmenting voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for disaster risk reduction. (Based on A/RES/77/164 OP51)