

Sixth Committee of the 75th UNGA

*Debate on agenda item 89 "Protection of Persons in the Event of
Disaster"*

Statement of Italy

October 23rd, 2020

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation is taking the floor today under the present agenda item to reiterate Italy's support for the ILC recommendation to elaborate a convention on the basis of the Draft Articles on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disaster adopted in 2016.

The ILC Draft Articles, in providing a comprehensive set of legal rules pertaining to the protection of human dignity and fundamental human rights in the event of

regulating international cooperation in disaster response operations, constitute a valuable and solid basis

The COVID-19 pandemic has unveiled the systemic risks that our societies face when dealing with the occurrence of unexpected events with disastrous consequences. The phenomenon of climate change, with its dire consequences in terms of sea-level rise and extreme weather patterns and events, has also highlighted the vulnerability of populations and economies to disastrous events.

disaster response operations. It is for Member States to shape this legally binding instrument.

Mr Chairman,

With regard to the contents of the Draft Articles, Italy is generally satisfied that they reach a good balance between codification of existing customary international law – for example on the question of the consent of the affected

same time, Italy is of the view that the Draft Articles would benefit from a more circumscribed definition under Draft Art. 3 excluding economic and political crises and armed conflicts from the scope of application of a future convention, as well as from a more precise formulation of Draft Art. 18 aimed at avoiding overlapping with international humanitarian

In conclusion Mr Chairman,

Italy supports progress towards the elaboration of a universal convention on the protection of persons in the event of disaster. With regard to this year's resolution, while we are cognizant of the restrictions on the working methods of the Sixth Committee, we will support the best way forward in the interest of