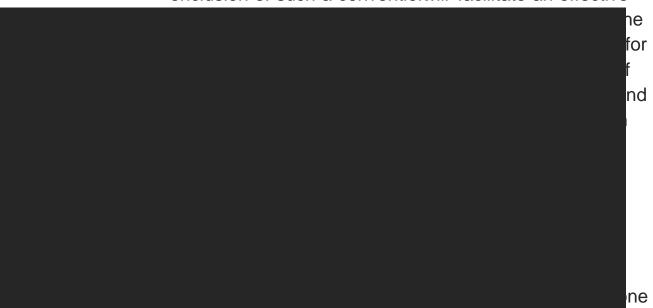
In the past 20 years, more than 7,000 major disasters have impacted all regions

people from natural disasters.

As one of the most disasteprone countries of the world, Bangadeshwelcomes the recommendation of the International Law Commission to elaborate a convention, and in this regard, its daft articles on  $\circ$  "'-‡...-('• '^ ‡"•'•• (• ‡"±•- '^ (• f•-‡"•'



onclusion of such a conventionwill facilitate an effective

However, there is scope for improvement In this regard, I wish to make the following points:

disasters include both natural and marmade ones and they are subject to different legal regimes. The convention on protection of persons in the event of disaster should therefore provide a clearer definition of disaster in its text.

the draft articles cover the needs for assistanceuring, and in the immediate aftermath of the disasters. However, it is also important to address the long-term needs of the affected country as well as the affected people, especially thoselosing homes and properties or otherwise displaced.

disasters exacerbate the vulnerability of those who arealready in a vulnerable situation, such asthe poorest. Therefore, particular attention must be given to the need of the most vulnerable section of the societyncluding financial support for reconstruction and rehabilitation activities for the affected

disasters affeotive formen and girlsdisproportionately. At the same time, women often appear to be the earliest responders to disasters. In Bangladesh one-