



We align ourselves with the statement made by the European Union and wish to make some remarks in our national capacity.

The respect for, and protection of, human dignity and human rights of persons affected by disasters is a topic of great relevance for my delegation.

As previously stated before this Committee, Portugal reiterates its belief that the *Draft Articles on the Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters* provide an important contribution by the International Law Commission for the progressive development of international law on this subject. Multiple natural disasters that we have unfortunately be witnessing over the past few years, as well as a global pandemic, have left countries and communities reeling with its impacts, and have shown us – with their magnitude and consequences – the urgency for establishing a sound international legal framework applicable to disasters, in the broad definition contained in Draft Article 3.

Indeed, as old and emerging challenges become ever more transnational and complex, it is likely that the world will face events that are increasingly more common as well as more severe in their effects, resulting “in widespread loss of life, great human suffering and distress” and “causing serio aQ

