



United Kingdom Mission
to the United Nations

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Thank you Chair.

1. The UK provided detailed comments on the draft Articles at the 2023 Working Group and we are not therefore proposing to repeat all of the points that we made previously. However, we have reflected carefully on the helpful comments made by other States last year and will highlight some of the key points which we consider may merit further consideration.
2. Turning now to the preamble:

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6. The UK notes that, as observed by a number of States last year, the
may encompass events
falling within the scope of existing instruments, including climate
related instruments such as the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC, as
well as the Pandemic Accord which is currently being negotiated. A
wide definition has implications elsewhere in the
articles, in particular, draft Article 9, which places an obligation on
States to reduce the risk of disasters. The UK considers that, in
circumstances where states are already addressing issues through
separate subject-specific frameworks, it would be unhelpful to
develop parallel obligations.

7. The UK also notes that the commentaries state that economic and
political crises are outside the scope of the draft Articles and that a
situation of armed conflict is not a disaster for the purposes
of the Articles. The UK is supportive of the position set out in the
commentaries; however, this does not appear to be reflected in the
wording of draft Article 3(a). The UK would therefore be inclined to
amend the Articles to explicitly exclude political and economic crises
and to make clear that an armed conflict cannot be qualified per se
as a disaster for the purposes of the draft Articles.

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8. As noted last year, the definition
in whose territory, or in territory under whose jurisdiction or control,
y create uncertainty as to where the
obligations set create uncertainty as y000008871 0 595.32 841.92 reW*nBF1

situations where territorial sovereignty is disputed. There also could

