

Working Group Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters (Cluster 4)

Thank you Mr Chair,

With regard to Cluster 4, the European Union and its Member States would have the following observations.

- On a general note and in line with previous comments of ours, we consider that this cluster of the draft articles that deals with the role of the affected State following a disaster, strikes an **appropriate balance** between the need to safeguard the principle of national sovereignty of affected States, on the one hand, and the need for international cooperation, on the other, while we recall that respect for human rights of persons in the event of disasters should always be safeguarded.
- Sovereignty entails both rights and obligations and this is already reflected in **draft article 10**. While affirming
to provide disaster relief, it establishes the duty of the affected State to ensure the protection of persons affected by disasters in its territory, or in territory under its jurisdiction or control. We recall in this regard draft article 13(2), which provides that the affected state cannot withho

