

In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

**Statement by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Before the Sixth Committee of Seventy-ninth Session of General Assembly**

**Working Group on Protection of Persons in the Event of Disasters**

**Cluster V: draft articles 15,16 and 17**

**October 2024-New York**

**Mr. Chair.**

The Draft Articles have addressed the facilities and measures that in view of the Commission are needed for the functioning of relief personnel, however, it has failed to include appropriate provisions that ensures compliance with and respecting national laws of affected states by relief personnel where such personnel provide their assistance. Assisting States, other assisting actors and relief personnels should respect the affected State's sovereignty, national laws, and regulations. This is a crucial element that could ensure provision of assistance in good faith and to the benefit of affected states in the event of disasters.

As for draft article 15, a general formulation of a voluntary nature could be considered for the purpose of facilitating provisions of assistance, the details on the extent and types of such facilitation could be addressed through appropriate arrangement between affected States and the relevant side. In our view, facilitation of the provisions of assistance to affected States could also be among measures that assisting States and other States, as the case may be, could undertake on their part. On subparagraph 1(a) of draft article 15, as we have mentioned before, there is no support in customary international law for such provisions, the Commission had better delete this provision.

As this is the last cluster, I would like to reiterate that our substantive comments on the Draft Articles does not prejudice our position regarding the fate of the draft articles. Also, we reserve our position on other aspects and provisions of the Draft Articles.

**I thank you.**