



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.  
LIMITED

E/1996/L.35  
22 July 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

Substantive session of 1996  
New York, 24 June-26 July 1996  
Agenda item 6 (h)

ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS: INTERNATIONAL  
DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

Costa Rica\*: draft resolution

International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1995/47 B of 25 July 1995 and General Assembly resolution 50/117 A of 8 December 1995,

Mindful of the continuing threat of natural disasters and similar emergency situations to vulnerable populations and communities worldwide,

Concerned about the continuing difficulties in effectively implementing the goals and overall objectives of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Recognizing the need for concrete measures to reduce the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters, with their attendant loss of human life and heavy physical and economic damage, in particular in developing countries, among which small island States and land-locked countries are especially vulnerable,

Reaffirming its commitment to the full implementation of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation, and its Plan of Action, 1/ especially with regard

---

\* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

1/ See A/CONF.172/9, chap. I.

to its call for international cooperation in the field of disaster prevention, preparedness and mitigation,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction; 2/

2. Reiterates the distinct character of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction as a global concept and framework for action which makes possible the effective integration of disaster reduction into national planning at the country and community levels;

3. Reaffirms that disaster reduction is an integral part of and contributes to the achievement of sustainable development, through the protection of resources, at the national and community levels, such as human lives, human capacities, financial assets, natural resources and the environment, means of production, and infrastructure;

4. Calls upon States, relevant intergovernmental bodies and all others involved in the Decade to participate actively in its financial and technical activities in order to ensure the implementation of the International Framework of Action for the Decade; 3/

5. Calls on the Secretary-General of the United Nations to ensure the integration and recognition of the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action, which is based on the targets and overall objectives of the Decade, in the coordinated approach taken to the follow-up to all recent major United Nations conferences and summits and to the implementation of their respective plans of action;

6. Stresses the need for synergy between the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States 4/ and the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action as they relate to natural disaster reduction;

7. Calls further on the Secretary-General to ensure adequate consideration and involvement of the International Framework of Action for the Decade in the evaluation and overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21 in 1997.

-----

---

2/ A/51/186-E/1996/80.

3/ See General Assembly resolution 44/236, annex.

4/ Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994 (A/CONF.167/9 and Corr.1 and 2) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.