



General Assembly

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Agenda item 13

**Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up
to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and
summits in the economic, social and related fields**

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 29 April 2025

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/79/L.76](#))]

79/285. International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration,¹ the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030² and the political declaration of the high-level meeting on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,³ and recognizing that one of the priorities for action of the Sendai Framework is an understanding of disaster risk for prevention and mitigation and for the development and implementation of appropriate preparedness for and effective response to disasters, which continue to undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991 on strengthening the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations and subsequent related resolutions on humanitarian assistance, including resolutions [57/150](#) of 16 December 2002 and [79/139](#) and [79/140](#) of 9 December 2024,

Reaffirming also its resolutions [53/199](#) of 15 December 1998 and [61/185](#) of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years, and Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#) of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries, in particular paragraphs 1 to 10 of the annex thereto on the agreed

¹ Resolution [69/283](#), annex I.

² Ibid., annex II.

³ Resolution [77/289](#), annex.



criteria for the proclamation of international years, as well as paragraphs 13 and 14, in which it is stated that an international year should not be proclaimed before the basic arrangements for its organization and financing have been made,

Acknowledging the importance of the work of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster risk reduction, including assessing seismic hazards and building resilience to earthquakes,

Emphasizing that earthquakes have claimed millions of lives and caused extensive destruction, as well as exacerbated existing socioeconomic challenges, and remain a significant challenge for many countries,

Recognizing resolution 1753 (XVII) of 5 October 1962 as the first-ever General Assembly resolution reflecting international solidarity in foreseeing practical steps in international assistance for the victims of earthquakes,

Acknowledging that earthquakes have resulted in significant loss of lives, damage to property, displacement of communities and the loss of livelihoods, food security and nutrition, health and access to social infrastructure, calling for support to countries to better understand the exposure and vulnerability to earthquake risks, and further calling upon the international community to provide financial, technical and capacity-building support to countries prone to earthquake risk, prioritizing resources to developing countries,

Recognizing the long-term impact of earthquakes on survivors and affected communities and the need for psychosocial support, inclusive recovery planning and sustainable rebuilding efforts for the well-being of those most affected,

Recognizing also the importance of promoting risk-informed, inclusive policies, planning and investments that build resilience to earthquakes and reduce displacement risk arising from earthquakes,

Reiterating its call for the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political, financial and institutional measures that reduce risks caused by earthquakes and vulnerability to them, and increase preparedness for response and recovery,

Recognizing that it is urgent and critical to anticipate, plan for and reduce risks, to protect the lives of people and prevent the damage caused by earthquakes, and noting the need for policies and focused action to understand and address disaster risk, strengthen disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, invest in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhance disaster preparedness for effective response and to build back better in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction through people-centred, resilient, sustainable and inclusive recovery approaches that leave no one behind,

Noting the importance of the prompt dissemination of information through early warning systems, and promoting the incorporation of earthquake risk knowledge, including preparedness, response, recovery and rehabilitation, in formal and non-formal education, as well as in civic education at all levels and in professional education and training, and of raising awareness and creating a culture of disaster prevention, resilience and responsible citizenship to foster all-of-society engagement in disaster risk reduction,

Noting with appreciation the important contribution made by humanitarian organizations and international urban search and rescue teams in the aftermath of earthquakes and other events resulting in structural collapse, which has helped to reduce loss of life and human suffering,

Noting with appreciation also the important contribution of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group to improve the efficiency and the effectiveness of international urban search and rescue assistance, supported by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, in line with General Assembly resolution [57/150](#),

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

Expressing solidarity with all countries and peoples affected by earthquakes,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 29 April as the International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes, to be observed annually;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to collaborate on the commemoration of the International Day in Memory of the Victims of Earthquakes with other competent organizations and stakeholders, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, local authorities, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as appropriate, including through activities aimed at education and awareness-raising of the importance of strengthening resilience and increasing preparedness for response and recovery;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to facilitate the observance of the International Day, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#);

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions and that such activities would be subject to the availability and provision of voluntary contributions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations for appropriate observance.

*67th plenary meeting
29 April 2025*